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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

The arrival of the French ship *NANTAISE*, announced in the Report of yesterday, from Nantz the 14th of October, and Bourdeaux the 12th of December—which is a day later than the departure of the *ROYAL GEORGE* from England,—has necessarily set all quidnuncs and politicians on the *qui vive* for intelligence respecting the posture of Europe. Considering the known state of affairs about that period, and the quarter from which the vessel sailed, the question of peace or war between France and Spain, is the first which presses on our attention. We have accordingly used every exertion to procure information on this subject in order to gratify our Readers, to whom we are enabled to communicate the following particulars:—

A Bourdeaux Letter of date the 26th of November (received by a Merchant of this City from his Commercial Correspondent there,) adverting to the reports of the threatened war with Spain, remarks: "seeing no just cause for war, and knowing it to be repugnant to the general feelings and interest of France, we conclude there can be no war."

Another Letter, however, of December 2d, a week's later date, adopts on this subject a very altered tone; directing returns of property to be suspended until the question is decided. Insurances were not procurable, and an impression existed that England would take a part in the conflict.

We have received from different quarters the promise of newspapers that may be received by this vessel; and we shall lose no time in laying their contents before our readers. In the meantime, we proceed with the most useful and interesting portion of the English journals and periodical publications last received. The following article from the *SCOTSMAN* displays the usual sagacity which is one of the characteristic features of that able Paper:—

*Congress of Verona*.—The Congress of Verona, like Mount Vesuvius, seems to throw out nothing but smoke. We have abundance of statements from that place, which we believe to be nothing better than conjectures, grounded on circumstances known quite as well in England as in Lombardy. All that is certain amounts to this—that there is no outward sign of contention or quarrel—that the legitimates, in short, have not pulled one another by the nose, or exchanged messages of defiance. The King of Prussia has gone to Rome on a visit of classical curiosity—a circumstance which seems to indicate that no important step is to be immediately decided on. In fact, the interest of the news from Verona has been entirely superseded by that of the news from Paris. The symptoms of an approaching war are visibly multiplying both in France and Spain. It is absurd to consider the great and expensive preparations now made on the French side of the Pyrenees as mere demonstrations, to give effect to the manifestos of the Holy Alliance. The rabble of Ultra nobles who fill the French court, stupidly ignorant of the abyss that lies under their feet, are clamouring loudly for war; and the Government, so far as can be judged from the tone of the official journals, seems quite disposed to yield to

their wishes. We see nothing, in fact, to give us the smallest assurance of the continuance of peace between these two powers, unless the Board at Verona interpose their *veto*. Now, it is stated, apparently on good grounds, that France claims the right of acting entirely for herself in this matter, alleging that she has the same title to provide against the contaminations of democracy, by invading Spain, that Austria had by invading Naples. The argument is conclusive, if France is equally sure of success. After witnessing the issue of Bonaparte's efforts, we should consider the experiment perilous, but the Holy Allies may think otherwise; and to promote the cause of crowns, which is their own cause, they may be willing to let the French Bourbons stake their existence.

The *Courier*, who professes to have access to superior sources of information, plainly avows his belief, that the Congress is not adverse to the project of invading Spain. If this is really the case, we must consider the last chance of preserving peace as gone. The season is, indeed, far advanced for beginning hostilities, but the assailants expect to succeed by a sudden inroad, or, what is called in military language, "making a point." If the French do enter Spain, we have little doubt that the Spaniards may be beat at first, but we have still less doubt that final discomfiture awaits their adversaries. A war for the promotion of murder and sacrilege would not, in our opinion, be more infamously unjust. But a short time will assuredly reveal to the aggressors the fatal error they have committed. The first cannon that is fired may well be considered as sounding the tocsin of revolution to every throne in Continental Europe. It requires no superhuman sagacity to see, that before two years pass, the Bourbons, who should have been the last to tamper with revolutionary wars, will mourn over their incorrigible folly in sackcloth and ashes.—*Scotsman*, November 20.

*Mr. Canning*.—A Correspondent notes it as an extraordinary circumstance, that the "memory of Lord Castlereagh" was not drunk at either of the dinners given to Mr. Canning at Liverpool, nor was any thing said of the mighty loss the empire and the Holy Allies had sustained. We have no distinct recollection of the toasts, but take the fact in our correspondent's word. Certainly it would have been becoming in the men of Liverpool to dress one half of their faces in sables on such an occasion. They should have appeared, as Hamlet says, with joy in one eye and grief in the other—dejected beyond measure that so great a pillar of social order had fallen—and quite overjoyed that a greater and better was found to supply his place. It is strange that his constituents did not lay a train for his sympathies; or that the joker on the "revered and ruptured Ogden" did not shed a few generous tears over the bier of his quondam enemy and recent friend. The fact we suspect to be, that the parties understood one another. The worthy member did not accept of place under the man he had denounced as incapable, till he had made the painful discovery that his consequence vanished with his office, and that out of power he was nobody. The Liverpool men, who are expert calculators, shrewdly guessed, we may suppose, that he was not immeasurably distressed by an event which removed a successful rival out of the way, and gave him the only chance of obtaining what he would have sighed for in vain, as long as the other lived.

## Court of the Lord Lyon.

On the great addition made to the fees for matriculations since the year 1804, it is enough to say that they have taken place without warrant, and solely at the discretion of the officers themselves who were interested in the exaction.—Provision should be made for preventing the sale of any office in this as in other courts; and the remuneration of the several officers should be affixed at a stated yearly amount.—*Report to Parliament, &c.*

Scotsman.

The Tenth Report of the Commissioners on the Courts of Justice in Scotland has now been printed and circulated; and like all its predecessors, it has been got up with much care, and displays, with a judicious wariness, which is sometimes carried a little too far, a very considerable reach of mind, and talents, which, on the whole, are directed by sound and liberal principles. The present report refers to the Office and Court of the Lord Lyon; and, in the absence of all political matter of paramount interest, we shall endeavour to make our readers acquainted with some of the leading features of this report.

The institution of Heralds in Scotland is not distinctly traced to an earlier period than the close of the fourteenth century. In the year 1413, explicit mention is made in the records of "Leo Heraldus Rex Armorum." The other Heralds, Pursuivants, and Macers, were progressively created in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; and, by entries in the Chamberlain's and Treasurer's accounts, it is proved that all these officers received pensions from the crown. Some light is thrown upon the earlier proceedings of the Lyon Court by a decree by Lindsay of the Mount, dated 16th January 1554, of which there is an official extract in the Advocates' Library. Another copy of this sentence is to be found in Chalmers's Edition of Sir David Lindsay, vol. i. p. 39. Sir David Lindsay's Original Register or Matriculation Book of the Armorial Bearings of the Nobility and Barons of Scotland is also preserved in the Advocates' Library. The acts of Parliament on this subject are those of 1587, c. 46; 1592, c. 127; 1662, c. 53, repealed by 1663, c. 16; 1672, c. 21; in connection with which the Treaty of Union (Articles 19 and 24) may also be referred to. But many of the provisions of the Scottish statutes are disregarded in practice. Under these statutes, however, the Lord Lyon claims a variety of powers, and still exercises not a few of them. He claims the right exclusively of inquiring into the relationship of the younger branches of families, having right to coat-armour, who desire to have the family arms assigned to them, of assigning suitable differences to them accordingly, and of matriculating them in the register of the office; and also of giving arms "to virtuous and well-deserving persons," as the act phrases it, without which he conceives it to be unlawful for any person to use and bear a coat of arms. He is of opinion also that he is entitled to enforce his jurisdiction by proceedings in his own court, against all who infringe the prohibitions on wearing arms unlawfully. How this point would now be decided in the Court of Session, which is in use to declare whether any, and what parts of our Scottish statutes have become abrogated by custom, we cannot say; but we are convinced that no doubt could have remained on the subject, if the Procurator-fiscal of Court (public prosecutor) had known any method by which he could ensure payment to himself of the costs of prosecution. No funds are assigned by law for this purpose; and as the decrees of this court cannot be enforced summarily, like those of our Sheriffs and Burgh Magistrates, by getting letters of horning and caption on bills presented (*pro forma*) to the Court of Session, but require decrees conform (or the sanction) of another court, the Fiscal is not likely to prosecute at his own risk. In the only instance in which the present Fiscal has done so—which was rendered almost imperative on him, by getting notice from the Justiciary Court of a messenger at arms having been convicted there—he is still some seven or eight pounds out of pocket. We wish that some other Fiscals, who prosecute, right and left, for the sale of game, were placed in equal difficulties with regard to the recovery of expenses. So far, however, as the jurisdiction of the Lyon is directed towards proper objects, it would, as the Commissioners suggest, be most proper to give effect to his de-

crees as readily and summarily as those of any other inferior court; the same means of redress, by advocacy or suspension, being also afforded. In the case of MURRAY of Touchadam, (24th June 1778,) it was decided that, although the Lyon has jurisdiction in questions respecting the matriculation of arms, it is not private, but subject to review by the Court of Session. As to grants of arms, the practice of the Lyon Court—and which is understood to be that of all other colleges of arms—is to refuse them to no respectable applicant; but the present deputy (Mr. TAIT) has refused all the applications made to him for supporters, the right of bearing them, in his opinion, belonging only to Peers, Peeresses in their own right, the widows and sons of Peers by courtesy, heirs-male of the Lesser Barons who had the full right of free barony prior to 1587, and the heirs-male of gentlemen who had been in the use of carrying supporters long prior to the act of 1672. Mr. Tait's predecessor, however, was in the use of granting supporters upon less strict principles; and the Commissioners observe, that the exercise of this assumed or real discretionary power "led to some unauthorised and very incorrect practices connected with the fees on such grants."

But the jurisdiction exercised by the Lyon Court, in which the public is most deeply interested, is that respecting messengers at arms—officers to whom is committed the execution of nearly all the warrants of our higher courts, especially those authorising imprisonment for debt, and many other duties of delicacy and importance. All these officers are admitted by the Lyon, who judges of their qualifications, decides on the sufficiency of the security found by them for a proper discharge of their duty, and suspends or deprives them on account of misconduct. On all these points our old law was exceedingly anxious. The statute 1587, c. 46, limits the number of messengers to 200, requires good and responsible sureties for each, and appoints courts to be held twice in the year for trying the merits of all complaints; but in January last they were 446 in number, (no matter of regret, perhaps, if compelled to do their duty, though the law is thus virtually abrogated); the holding of two peremptory courts, if they ever were so held, are abandoned—which is of no moment either, since complaints are received and decided upon at any time during the year; but what is of most importance, no sufficient means are adopted for the purpose of ascertaining that the originals sureties continue alive and solvent. The messengers, it is true should send a declaration yearly, as to the continued existence and place of abode of their sureties; but the return is made only in a few instances; and at present the public have no adequate guarantee against the neglects and malversations of these officers. They may be got suspended or dismissed in the Lyon Court; but such a step, though it may gratify a vindictive feeling, and prevent others from suffering in the same manner, will not compensate a creditor for the loss of his debt. On 21st January 1766, it was decided that the Lyon could not of his own authority, without special complaints at the instance of individuals, compel messengers to attend two peremptory courts in the year. On 5th August 1774, it was found that registration of the messengers's bond of caution in the Lyon court books was not a sufficient warrant for letters of horning to compel payment of arrears, &c.; and although the opinion was once held, that under the acts 1587, c. 46; 1592, c. 127; and 1594, c. 212, actions for damages might be brought before the Lyon Court, it was decided (27th June 1673,) that such action were of a civil nature, and must be pursued in the ordinary courts of law. These actions, therefore, have since been brought before the Court of Session; and cases are reported, 19th July 1776, 10th July 1810, and 17th January 1811, in which messengers were found liable to pay the full debt from having neglected to imprison the debtors as desired by their employers. But it happens not unfrequently, when a party tries to obtain redress for the misconduct of a messenger, that the cautioners are found to be dead, or altogether insufficient. By way of remedy, the Commissioners suggest that bonds of caution should either be renewed annually, or returns exacted from all messengers half-yearly, stating whether their cautioners be living or dead, and, if living, where they reside; suspension from office to follow as matter of course upon failure to make such



returns; but we are much afraid, that unless the returns were accompanied with certificates from the Sheriff-substitutes, or one or more Justices of the Peace of the countries in which the cautioners reside, stating whether these cautioners be habite and repute responsible, very little good would be attained. The Lyon-Clerk could not half-yearly make inquiries respecting the solvency of perhaps nine hundred individuals; and although he could, no authorised mode of doing so is pointed out, so as to give to the information received that character which would entitle him to found proceedings upon it. But another grievance remains to be noticed. With the exception of debts in the decrees of inferior Judges, while the debtors reside within their limited jurisdictions, a messenger must be employed as bailiff whether the creditor wish to attach the moveables by poinding, or the person of his debtor by imprisonment. However small may be the debt this employment is unavoidable; in many places there is no choice of an officer; and in no place are there any settled or invariable rules for settling his fees, which, for some pieces of business, are heavy every where, and in remote places (the Highlands and northern counties especially) are often oppressive. This looseness of practice is felt by the respectable messengers, as much as by the creditors; and the former complain especially that the Auditor of accounts in the Court of Session is now in the habit of taking great and arbitrary licences in modifying their accounts. To practitioners this is still more annoying for, being the immediate employers of the messengers, they must either pay what is demanded by the latter, as to which there is no rule, or involve their clients and themselves in law pleas; and if they pay the messengers' charges, they may find, to their cost, that they are cut down by the Auditor in taxing accounts of expenses. This is a state of matters which should not be allowed to continue. A great part of the business of a messenger is made up of acts which must be done *pro forma*, or in a stated invariable manner; and the varieties chiefly consist in distances travelled, or time occupied in waiting. All these can easily be measured, and paid for upon fixed principles; and there is a mass of valuable information on this subject given in the appendix to the report. There are some pieces of business, it is true, such as the execution of criminal warrants against smugglers, &c. that are attended with danger; but why not make the Sheriff-Substitute, Clerk, or some known officer, decide upon these (for a small stated fee) in the first place, leaving it to either party to take the opinion of the Lord Ordinary on the Bills in a summary manner, if dissatisfied with the primary decision? It is no small evil that the modification of such fees should be left to the Auditor of Court, after they have been paid by the one party and received by the other. The functions of that officer are exceedingly useful when confined to the ascertainment of what fees are charged according to the regulations fixed by statute or the Court; but we do not think it safe to lodge unlimited discretionary powers in the hands of any officer. We could not, probably, point out a person better qualified, or more upright in the discharge of all his duties, than the gentleman who officiates at present; but as Judges can seldom do more than say that the Auditor is a better Judge of such matters than they are themselves, it would be a great improvement if, in all cases of discretion or opinion—and these should be narrowed as much possible—the parties should have power to call for an opinion by one member of each of the law corporations elected annually for that purpose; after which the judges, if called upon to give a decision, would have some additional light to guide them. A plan of this nature is obviously practicable, and would be attended with the best effects. But we have digressed a little. The establishment of the Lyon Court consists at present of the Lord Lyon, (Earl of KINNOUL,) Lyon Depute, (GEORGE TAIT, Esq. Advocate), Clerk and Keeper of Records, (Mr. DAVID CLYNE, S. S. C.) Procurator-Fiscal, (Mr. JAMES WILLIAMSON, Writer,) a Macer, six Heralds, six Pursuivants, and the body of Messengers at Arms. The Lord Lyon does no duty in or about the Lyon Court; his office being entirely nominal, except on great shew-days, like those which occurred on his Majesty's visit, it being the right and duty of the Lord Lyon to marshal all solemn public processions. The

salary, however, is not nominal. Until the year 1796, the annual stipend was £300, besides fees; but on the office being then transferred from a commoner to a nobleman of the first rank, the salary was increased to ..... £600 0 0  
While the average annual fees amount to ... 694 10 1

Making in all, £1,294 10 1

Although the right, and still more the propriety of naming a Depute, might be questioned, the whole duties are performed by the Lyon-depute, who has no salary from Government, but whose share of fees, upon an average of five years, would be about L. 145. The Clerk's fees, for the same period, average L. 481, "after deduction of L. 371, being the average amount during the same period, as estimated by the present Clerk, of fees considered by him to have been unwarrantably collected by the preceding officer." The Heralds receive salaries of L. 25 each, their fees averaging L. 18:6:1. The salaries of the Pursuivants are L. 16:13:4 each; fees L. 16:11:2; but the admission dues of a Herald, or the purchase money of his office, amount to about L. 315, and those of a Pursuivant to L. 210; so that few men would put such coats on their backs, as these officers do on proclamation days, for all the interest obtained for their money. It appears, also, from the Lord Lyon's report, that it has been usual for the Lyon Clerk to pay a consideration for his appointment, the late Clerk having paid L. 360 to his Lordship's predecessor. This method of selling judicial offices has been uniformly reprobated by the Parliamentary Commissioners, as leading to very incorrect and dangerous practices; and a remarkable instance of this occurs in regard to the Lyon Court, the fees exacted previously to the death of the late Clerk not being traceable so far back as the year 1804; and in 1819, what was regulated to 5s. 6d. Sterling in the act of 1672, was L. 41, 19s; to this last sum (exclusive of the stamp duty) the fees of matriculating arms for Knights and Gentlemen were raised from £5.18s. at which they are given in a table of fees for the year 1760; so that in sixty-two years, and chiefly within the last 18 years, these fees have been increased very nearly tenfold, at the discretion of the Clerk, who has generally been also Lyon-Depute. But the blame attaches equally to the Lords Lyon, or rather in a higher degree; for it may fairly be held, that their avarice in selling the clerkship led to all these mal-practices, while, instead of checking the subordinates, as they ought to have done, from being the heads of a public office, and drawing a salary from the public for honorary services, which they should have made honourable, they pocketed a large share of the spoil. They sold as it were a sort of privilege to commit depredations on the public, and they were equally ready to divide the pillage with the actual depredators. The chieftains who, according to use and wont, preyed upon their lowland neighbours, followed a far less mischievous occupation. Their inroads were sure to generate retaliatory or correctory measures; but what was thus done under colour of law was accomplished silently, and against those who seldom knew whether they were suffering unjustly or not, and whose knowledge would still seldom have enabled them to obtain redress. The only apology that can be made for any of the parties is, that this sort of legal abuse was general, and had reached other courts, whose proceedings are of still more importance to the country. Our thanks, however, are due to this Parliamentary Commission, for doing what, we trust, will remove this foul reproach from the courts of Scotland; and we are quite certain that the present Lyon-Depute and Clerk, who have paid nothing for their offices, and who are men of honour and respectability, will enter cordially into any reasonable measures that may be suggested for placing the whole business of their court upon a safe and proper footing.

Before concluding by recommending this, and all the preceding reports to the public attention, and as deserving much more consideration than they have yet obtained from the landholders and traders of Scotland, we must, in justice to ourselves, enter our dissent against two measures proposed by the Commissioners. Influenced, we believe, by the consideration that a great proportion of the fees are levied on what may be thought the gratification of vanity, the Commission-

ers seem willing to allow the whole to remain at the standard to which they had attained in 1819. We, on the other hand, while we are anxious that all efficient services should be fairly remunerated, are greatly averse from legalizing any sort of fees that have been increased by undue means. They are for continuing the offices of both Lord Lyon and Depute Lyon, giving to the former, in lieu of salary and fees, £1000: the latter £300; and to the Clerk £400. We would be for abolishing the office of Depute altogether, and making Mr. TAIT, who discharges all the duties, the principal, with a salary of £600; not only because we see no reason for giving £1000 to an officer who does nothing, unless it be to give Ministers an undue influence, but because we think the immediate abolition a measure called for against the present Lord Lyon, for allowing such an increase of fees to take place under him. Mr. TAIT, who, in his abstract of the duties of a Justice of the Peace, has displayed knowledge and judgment, would thus be raised to that consideration which he seems to deserve, while £700 would be set free, which would enable the Clerk to remit all his fees on the renewal of bonds of caution, presently so burdensome on messengers, and afford, besides, some efficient means of enforcing the law against messengers, in behalf of the public. We must also differ, though reluctantly, from the Commissioners, in their recommendation that the Lyon-Depute should always be an Advocate of three years' standing. This does not appear to us to be either liberal or expedient. Men of business, let us say of seven or ten years' standing, have generally more practical sense and reliability, than lawyers of three, and as much, if not more, legal knowledge. Why, then, exclude them from such an office? Besides, this practice of declaring Advocates only, or the members of some other favoured society, capable of filling certain offices, has a degrading effect on the bar, the honour and dignity of which can only be supported by the splendid talents of those who are drawn to it by a high and generous ambition. No man who hopes to excel in eloquence would be tempted by the prospect of getting an office worth a few hundreds a-year; but make the Faculty examinations and the dues of admission a sort of machinery for grinding or making inferior judges, clerks of courts, and small office-holders, and the bar will be crowded with thick heads, having servile tempers and numerous friends, with the hope of gaining parliamentary interest, instead of the Benchor a name, by the display of high talents or undisputed genius.

*Melancholy Case.*—A lady, now residing in Perthshire, having, in the course of a tour through the Highlands of Scotland, fallen in with a female of very interesting appearance, whom she found to be in a state of deep mental derangement, and consequently pining under all the bitter exigencies of that miserable and unprotected situation, feels herself called upon to lay before the public the following fragments, which fortunately she has been enabled to gather, as connected with the fate of this forlorn and disconsolate wanderer. During the several interviews which the lady had with this poor maniac, it can easily be supposed that little could be gleaned from her wild and incoherent ravings that could form any clue whereby her friends or relations could be discovered. Instigated, however, by the common feelings of humanity to advocate the cause of a miserable creature, and particularly of one who, even in madness and in rags, evidently displayed a superiority of rank and education, and encouraged from the uncertain little she had learned of her country and friends, the lady has since, through the medium of an eminent Irish prelate, received the following information, in every corroborative of what she had previously obtained in some small part from the disjointed soliloquies of the maniac herself. Those statements completely identify her, as well in history as in person, with a young lady who had escaped from Swift's Hospital, in which she had been placed by her friends; unfortunately the name of her family was unknown; but after her escape, when in a state of comparative sanity, she gave the following account of herself to an Irish lady, from whom the Bishop had his information. She said her father was an officer in the army, but the lady has unluckily forgotten the name; that her mother was dead, and that her father was married again to a lady in the neighbourhood of Cork; that she had come into the possession of an independent

fortune; that she became subject to a great depression of spirits, which was the cause of her being placed in Swift's Hospital; that her father's family is English, and that he lived generally at Bath; that her mother had died when they were on a tour through Ireland; that the name of her maternal grandmother was Lennox; that she lived at Firth (probably this should be Perth), in Scotland, and that she was then on her way to Scotland, to put herself under her grandmother's protection. She showed the Irish lady a recipe for sore eyes, subscribed by William Henry Downan, who attended the hospital as surgeon when she was there. She has frequently been heard to mention this name; but as there are, no doubt, mistakes in many of the above particulars, all attempts to discover her relations in Scotland have proved utterly unsuccessful.

The unfortunate female whose sad fate forms the subject of this melancholy detail; is now an unprotected wanderer in Athol, subsisting on the necessarily scanty fare which the humanity and lowly means of the cottager can bestow. This account is sent into the world, with the earnest hope, that sooner or later it may meet the eye of her family or friends. To rescue from misery this poor creature, and to shelter her from the wretched state to which she has been reduced, is surely an act worthy the humanity of all: and those who may be prompted to lend assistance in a cause so meritorious will receive farther information, by applying to the Rev. James Esdaile, minister of the East church parish of Perth.—*Caledonian Mercury*.

*Anecdote in a French Work lately quoted in the New MONTHLY MAGAZINE.*—"While on service in Piedmont, I was detached with a party of Dragoons into the woods that skirt the vale of Sesia, to prevent the smuggling, that went on there. Upon arriving at night in that wild and desolate tract, I perceived among the trees the ruins of an old chateau, which I entered. To my great surprise, it was inhabited. I found within it a nobleman of the country. He was a person of an inauspicious appearance, about six feet high, and 40 years of age. He graciously supplied me with a couple of rooms. My billeting-officer and I amused ourselves there with music. After a few days we discovered that this man had a female in his custody, whom we laughing called Camilla. We were far from suspecting the horrid truth. In about six weeks she died. I felt an impulse of melancholy curiosity to see her in her coffin. I gave a gratuity to the monk who had charge of her remains; and towards midnight, under the pretext of sprinkling holy water, he introduced me into the chapel where she lay. I found there one of those magnificent figures which continue beautiful even in the bosom of death. She had a large aquiline nose, whose contour, so expressive at once of elevation and tenderness, I never can forget: I quitted the mournful spot. Five years after, being with a detachment of my regiment that escorted the Emperor when he went to be crowned King of Italy, I contrived to learn the whole story. I was told that the jealous husband, Count —, had found attached to his wife's bed an English watch, the property of a young man of the little town in which they resided. On that very day he carried her off to the ruined chateau, in the midst of the woods of Sesia. He uttered not a syllable, but in answer to all her entreaties, he coldly and silently showed her the English watch, which he always kept about his person. He thus passed nearly three years with her. At length she died of a broken heart, in the flower of her age. The husband made an attempt to stab the owner of the watch—missed him—fled to Genoa—threw himself on board a ship, and has never since been heard of."—*Times*, Nov. 16.

*His Majesty.*—The celebrated Mrs. F— is now in Paris. This lady, the favourite of early life, soon after the accession of his Majesty, was offered, a title, and to have her pension of 6,000*l.* per annum doubled. Mrs. F. with her usual good sense, declined the title, and accepted the addition to her pension. We scarcely need call the recollection of our readers to the comparatively respectable claims of this lady, which elicited a very pithy pamphlet from Mr. Horne Tooke, to prove not only a marriage, but the propriety of admitting it; a production which, singularly enough, anticipated many of the objections to Royal marriages as usually constructed, which were so unhappily exemplified in the ill-fated union that followed.—*Morning Paper*.



# MISCELLANEOUS.

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## Trade to Columbia.

Copy of Correspondence between some Merchants trading to Columbia and the Secretary to the Admiralty.

SIR,

Freeman's court, Nov. 9, 1822.

In pursuance of the conversation we had the honour to hold yesterday with Sir George Cockburn and yourself, we beg leave to lay before you, for the information of their Lordships, the grounds on which it appears to us that the trade with the ports of La Guayra and Maracaybo, in Columbia, require for the present a regular and systematic protection, and respectfully suggest the manner in which that protection may be afforded.

Of the outrages to which all commerce in those seas is at present exposed by piracy, their Lordships are doubtless fully aware. In addition to this evil, the Spanish Commander at Puerto Cabello, General Morales, has latterly given notice of his intention to capture and condemn every vessel of whatever flag or character which he finds trading with the Columbian ports. He claims the right of doing so on two grounds: first, that he has declared the whole extent of coast from the Orinoco to the Isthmus of Darien under blockade, though with no visible means of enforcing it; and secondly, that vessels trading with the Columbian ports are guilty of a breach of Spanish colonial laws.

Encouraged by this declaration of the Spanish commander, there were by the last accounts five Spanish privateers fitting out at Porto Rico, and one or more had actually sailed. Two British vessels have already been captured, both condemned, and one of them sold, of which particulars are given in the margin. \* Two Dutch vessels have also been captured by a squadron in which the Spanish General Morales himself is stated to have been. It is not pretended in any of these cases that the property was Columbian, or belonging to any of the enemies of Spain.

Although the Spanish Commander claims the exercise of these extraordinary rights, the Crown of Spain possesses throughout the whole of the Columbian Republic (extending on the Atlantic shore from the Orinoco to Darien, and on the Pacific from Guayaquil to Panama) but one single fortress—that of Puerto Cabello, with no territory beyond its walls.

Under these circumstances, the necessity of affording protection to this trade, as far as British subjects are concerned, we doubt not will be apparent to their Lordships.

The most convenient mode of granting this protection, we submit, will be to direct the Commanding officer at Barbadoes to despatch a convoy regularly on the first of every month for La Guayra and Maracaybo, with such vessel or vessels for those ports as may have arrived at Barbadoes; to direct the commander of the convoy to inquire at La Guayra if there are any vessel or vessels for England nearly ready to sail, and in that case to return from Maracaybo to La Guayra, take them under his protection, and see them safe through the Mona passage. All this could be accomplished in less than a month, so that one vessel of war would be equal to the whole duty. The homeward trade from La Guayra could not go down to Maracaybo without considerable delay and inconvenience, as from the latter port it could not make the Mona passage.

Respecting the protection of the Maracaybo trade homewards, we would suggest that as there is a regular communication between that place and Santa Martha and between Santa Martha and Jamaica, the commander of any convoy proceeding down from Jamaica to Santa Martha should be directed, on receiving an intimation that any British ship was ready to proceed for Europe, to go to Maracaybo and give her protection through the windward passage.

By these means the trade to both ports, outwards and homewards, would receive protection, without compelling the La Guayra homeward trade to incur the inconvenience of being brought down to Maracaybo.

There being at present no British Consul at the Columbian ports, it will be convenient, if their Lordships see no objection, to direct the commanding officers of convoys to receive communication for the present from the merchants at the respective ports, in relation to the protection of the trade.

Since the month of May last, five ships have sailed from the river Thames, laden with British merchandize, for La Guayra and Maracaybo, and one is now loading here, and another at Liverpool, for the same ports.—We have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) HURRY AND POWLES, London.  
FALKNER AND MAWDSLEY, Liverpool.  
WILLIAM ACKERS, Liverpool.

John Wilson Croker, Esq., &c., Admiralty.

\* The *Phoenix* Mackie, from La Guayra to Hamburg; and the *Zelus*, Oliver, from Cadix to Vera Cruz.

(COPY.)

Admiralty office, Nov. 11.

GENTLEMEN,

Having laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the letter of the 9th instant, signed by you and by Messrs. Falkner and Mawdsley, and Mr. Ackers, of Liverpool, representing the interruptions to which the trade of this country with the ports of Columbia is exposed and requesting that protection may be afforded to this trade agreeably to the arrangement therein detailed; I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you, that they have directed the officers commanding his Majesty's naval force in the West Indies to carry into effect the arrangement which you have proposed in regard to convoys; and that their Lordships have also transmitted a copy of your letter to his Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I am, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

(Signed)

J. W. CROKER.

Messrs. Hurry and Powles, Freeman's court.

Sir Hudson Lowe.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR,

I had resolved to allow certain Journals to contain their system of calumny and falsehood without reply to them, being of opinion that measures of such a description did not merit notice; but as some of them tend to re-establish the honour of a man, whose parallel, I venture to say, cannot be found in either the English Army or the English Nation, and also to accuse me of having fled after my rencontre with him, I shall endeavour briefly to explain the affair.

On the morning of the 23d, the day after I had the rencontre with Major-General Sir Hudson Lowe, I perceived that I was pursued by the police officers at his solicitation. The same day I wrote to inform him that if he would behave like a man of honour I was ready to afford him that satisfaction which he had a right to require, but that, if he pursued me judicially, I should think myself authorised to leave England. That all letters which he should send to the address on my card would be faithfully remitted to me. During the 24th and the 25th I was sought after by the police officers; on the evening of the 25th, not having heard anything from the Major-General, and being closely followed by the Police, I determined to quit London and England to avoid a prosecution, sending Sir Hudson Lowe the last letter of mine which the Papers have published.

These are the facts. I appeal to every man of honour to judge of my conduct.

Those who have accused me of an assassin-like act, ought to have reflected that a horsewhip is not the weapon used for such a purpose against a person of superior strength, nor at nine o'clock in the morning in so public a place as Paddington-green.

To accuse Mr. O'Meara or Mr. Holmes of conspiracy is equally absurd. To revenge insult of which no tribunal can take cognizance, an honest man has no need of any other accomplice than his own intentions. I am not on sufficient terms of intimacy with Mr. Holmes to have asked him to be my second in an affair which must have compromised him; and I declare that I had no other connections with him in London than those of society, during which I had greatly to thank him for the politeness he shewed me.

As to Mr. O'Meara, it was probably to his never-ceasing attentions assiduity, and humanity, that I owed my life under the burning climate of the Tropic. I shall always be grateful for it, and shall value his friendship; but I knew that he had been obliged to find bail, to a large amount, to keep the peace with every one, and consequently delicacy imposed a law upon me to keep him unconnected with that which I did.

As to the accusation of having assumed a false title, I shall not enter into useless details to explain how my father possesses the titles of Count and of Baron, nor how I am authorised to use the last, but the Journalists who are doubtful about it need only demand at the alien-office what title the passport bore which was delivered to me by my Government.

I shall not condescend to reply to the calumnies which have been advanced against my father. His life, his character, and his political career, are too well known to require it.

I most distinctly aver (as some misapprehension appears to have taken place upon the subject) that the insult which I offered to Sir Hudson Lowe was for injuries inflicted by him as a private individual and not by any means for any act which he perpetrated in his official capacity as Governor of St. Helena, however much I hold his official conduct in detestation. In fact, it was an insult offered by one private individual to another private individual, in consequence of unjust aspersions cast upon the character of an absent parent.

As to what personally concerns me, I shall not lower myself by replying to such base calumnies; I have been for a long time acquainted with the cunning and lying hand that directs them. I repeat, that I came over to England for no other purpose than to obtain satisfaction from Sir Hudson Lowe. I am certain that there is not a Briton who considers the motives by which I have been actuated that will not approve, or at least excuse what I have done, or who will not disown for Briton the man against whom I have acted. I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.

(Signed) BARON EMMIL DE LAS CASES.

Paris, Nov. 7, 1822.

### Modern Gallantry.

Under this head, the gifted ELIA has a delightful article in the last LONDON MAGAZINE, in which he marks, with equal truth and feeling, the distinction between that assumed and temporary deference paid only to wealth or beauty, and that sincere respect for the qualities and consideration of the weakness of woman, which forms an inseparable part of the manners of a man of real gallantry, and is shown on every occasion and to every representative of the sex. "I shall believe (says ELIA) that this principle actuates our conduct, when I can forget, that in the nineteenth century of the era from which we date our civility, we are but just beginning to leave off the very frequent practice of whipping females in public, in common with the coarsest male offenders.—I shall believe it to be influential, when I can shut my eyes to the fact, that in England women are still occasionally—hanged.—I shall believe in it when actresses are no longer subject to be hissed off a stage by gentlemen.—I shall believe in it, when Dorimant hands a fish-wife across the kennel; or assists the apple-woman to pick up her wandering fruit, which some unlucky dray has just dissipated.—I shall believe in it, when the Dorimants in humbler life, who would be thought in their way notable adepts in this refinement, shall act upon it in places where they are not known or think themselves not observed.—when I shall see the traveller or some rich tradesman part with his admired box-coat, to spread it over the defenceless shoulders of the poor woman, who is passing to her parish on the roof of the same stage-coach with him, drenched in the rain.—when I shall no longer see a woman standing up in the pit of a London theatre, till she is sick and faint with the exertion, with men about her, seated at their ease, and jeering at her distress; till one, that seems to have more manners or conscience than the rest, significantly declares "she should be welcome to his seat, if she were a little younger and handsomer." Place this dapper warehouseman, or that rider, in a circle of their own female acquaintance, and you shall confess you have not seen a politer-bred man in Lothbury.—Lastly, I shall begin to believe that there is some such principle, influencing our conduct, when more than one half of the drudgery and coarse servitude of the world shall cease to be performed by women.—Until that day comes, I shall never believe this boasted point to be anything more than a conventional fiction: a pageant got up between the sexes, in a certain rank, and at a certain time of life, in which both find their account equally.—I shall be even disposed to rank it among the salutary fictions of life, when in polite circles I shall see the same attentions paid to age as to youth, to homely features as to handsome, to coarse complexions as to clear—to the woman as she is a woman, not as she is a beauty, a fortune, or a title.—I shall believe it to be something more than a name, when well-dressed gentlemen in a well-dressed company can advert to the topic of female old age without exciting, and intending to excite a sneer:—when the phrases "antiquated virginity," and such a one has over "staid her market," pronounced in good company, shall raise immediate offence in man, or woman, that shall hear them spoken.—Joseph Paice, of Bread-street-hill, merchant, and one of the Directors of the South Sea Company—the same to whom Edwards the Shakspeare commentator, has addressed a fine sonnet—was the only pattern of consistent gallantry I have met with. He took me under his shelter at an early age, and bestowed some pains upon me. I owe to his precepts and example whatever there is of the man of business (and that is not much) in my composition. It was not his fault that I did not profit more. Though bred a Presbyterian, and brought up a merchant, he was the finest gentleman of his time. He had not one system of attention to females in the drawing room, and another in the shop, or at the stall. I do not mean that he made no distinction. But he never lost sight of sex, or overlooked it in the casualties of a disadvantageous situation. I have seen him stand bare-headed—smile if you please—to a poor servant girl, while she has been inquiring of him the way to some street—in such a posture of unforced civility, as neither to embarrass her in the acceptance, nor himself in the offer, of it. He was no dangler, in the common acceptance of the word, after women; but he revered and upheld, in every form in which it came before him, womanhood. I have seen him—nay, smile not—tenderly escorting a market-woman, whom he had encountered in a shower, exalting his umbrella over her poor basket of fruit, that it might receive no

damage, with as much carefulness as if she had been a Countess. To the reverend form of Female Eld he would yield the wall (though it were to an ancient beggar-woman) with more ceremony than we can afford to show our grandams. He was the Preux Chevalier of Age: the Sir Calidore, or Sir Tristan, to those who have no Calidores or Tristans to defend them. The Roses, that had long faded thence, still bloomed for him in those withered and yellow cheeks.

### Newspaper Chat.

In July last, as Mr. John Fletcher, farmer, in Framlington, was viewing his young cattle, he observed a quey or heifer which he thought had milk: she has been milked ever since, and gives about three pints. She was only 15 months old then, and never has had a calf.—*Newcastle paper.*

All accounts from Italy (even those in the *Courier*!) concur in representing that country as being plundered and oppressed in the most savage manner by the Austrians. The prisons are crowded with persons suspected of being Carbonari; no rank, no virtue respected; neither do age or sex avert the blow of the tyrant. The Marquis Visconti has been six months ill in the prison at Milan, and yet they refused to allow his wife to attend on him. The Countess Confalonieri was threatened with imprisonment, because she refused to inform against her husband! The lady of an Advocate at Modena was confined five months, for having courageously swallowed a little piece of paper, which she thought might compromise her husband, when his house was searched for papers by the police. No man is safe who has Voltaire, Locke, or Rousseau in his library. All the Lancasterian Schools are suppressed, literary institutions, schools of rhetoric, and even agricultural societies, abolished. The funds belonging to Academies for promoting the Fine Arts are partly confiscated. Yet the Emperor of Austria has the insolence to abuse the Spanish Constitution, and to pretend to think it for the benefit of religion and social order that the Spaniards should have some such "paternal" government as his own forced upon them by foreign bayonets!

*Perfect Freedom.*—Pope Alexander VII. one day asked the keeper of the Vatican library (Allatius) why he did not take the orders? "Because," he replied, "I would be free to marry."—"But if so," observed the Pope, "Why don't you marry?"—"Because," rejoined the Keeper, "I would be at liberty to take orders." So he died, neither a priest nor a married man.

*Modern Greek Dinner.*—In Dr. Clarke's Travels there is the following description of a dinner given to him by the Archon of Labadea, Signor Logotheti:—Fowls boiled to rags, but still tough and stringy, and killed only an hour before they are dressed, all heaped together upon a large copper or pewter salver, placed upon a low stool, round which the guests sit upon cushions—the place of honour being on that side where the long couch of the divan extends along the white-washed wall. A long and coarse towel, very ill washed, about 12 inches wide, is spread round the table in one entire piece over the knees of the party seated. Brandy is handed about before sitting down to table. All persons who partake of the meal wash their hands in the room both before and after eating. A girl, with naked and dirty feet, enters the apartment, throwing to every one a napkin: she is followed by a second damsel, who goes to every guest, and kneeling before him on one knee, presents a pewter water-pot and a pewter basin, covered by a grill, on the top of which is a piece of soap. An exhibition rather of a disgusting nature, however cleanly, then takes place; for having made lather with the soap, they fill their mouths with this, and squirt it, mixed with saliva, in to the basin. The ladies of the family also do the same; lathering their lips and teeth, and displaying their arms, during the operation of the washing, with studied attitudes and a great deal of affectation, as if taught to consider the moments of ablution as a time when they may appear to great advantage. Then the master of the house takes his seat, his wife sitting by his side, at the circular tray; and stripping his arms quite bare, he serves out the soup and the meat. Only one dish is placed upon the table at the same time. If it contain butcher's meat or poultry, he tears it into pieces with his fingers. During meals the meat is always torn with the fingers. Knives and spoons are little used, and they are never changed. The room all this while is filled with girls belonging to the house and other menial attendants, all appearing with naked feet; also with a mixed company of priests, physicians, and strangers visiting the family. All these are admitted upon the raised part of the floor or divan: below are collected meaner dependents, peasants, old women, and slaves, who are allowed to sit there on the floor, and to converse together.—After dinner, the Bard is always introduced, who, with his lyre resting on one knee and his face lifted towards the ceiling, warbles such ayiliabes of dour, as Dr. Clarke compares rather to the howling of dogs in the night than any sound which might be called musical.



## A Summer's Day at Oxford.

(New Monthly Magazine.)

I invite the reader to pass a summer's day with me, in exploring a few of the beauties of the most beautiful city in the Europe—beautiful on all accounts—actual as well as fanciful—natural as well as artificial—immediate and present, as well as remote and associate. But it would ask a volume even to glance at all these beauties; and I can reckon on but a few pages. I must, therefore, in this our first walk together, notice but a few; and these merely external ones; and if my companion, the reader, relishes these, and my manner of bringing them before him (or rather of bringing him before them), he may command my future services as a cicerone; for, to point out to others the good, of whatever kind, with which I have long been familiar, is almost as pleasant to him as it was to discover it for myself.

We will, if the reader pleases, contrive to reach Oxford rather late over-night; and after having received the civil greetings of kind Mrs. Peake, at the Mitre, and taken an egg and a glass of cold sherry negus in her snug coffee room, will retire to our comfortable nests, and, rising from them in the morning, (not long after the lark leaves his,) will saunter forth, and never look behind us till we reach the little elevation on the Henley road, to the east of the city. How delicious is this prime of the morning! It is to a summer's day what the spring is to the year, or childhood to human life. The dew hangs, like a blessing, on the glittering leaves; and the mists are rising from the grass, like the smoke of an acceptable sacrifice, steaming up to the heavens. Hark to those heifers cropping the crisp herbage. I know of no sound more purely pastoral: it is as refreshing to an ear sick of the talk of towns, as a draught of ice-cold water is to a parched palate: And how sweetly it meets and harmonises with the rich melody that comes down from yonder mounting lark! There are no other sounds stirring;—for the sun has not yet awakened the breezes—the bee is still wrapped in its honey heavy slumbers, and the "hum of men" is a thing of memory only.

Turn we now to the most beautiful view of its kind in existence. At the extreme left and right, but not extending far into the distance, lie cultivated lands, laid out in small fields surrounded by hedgerows, and undulating into hill and dale in a manner peculiar to English scenery. In the immediate front these fields take the form of a rich plain, through which wind the two roads from London, till they join and lose themselves in the city. And then (at a distance of about half a mile from where we stand) rises the lovely city itself—steeped in the stillness of the morning, and crowned with the beauty of the clouds, that hang suspended above it, leaving an interval of grey sky between. Follow with your eye the road which runs at our right hand, till it reaches the bridge at the entrance of the city. Here rises the solemn and stately tower of Magdalen college—every where a conspicuous ornament in the general view, but here its principal individual feature. Immediately to the right of this tower stands "Maudlin's learned mass," bearing from this point of view the appearance of a uniform mass of verdure, rising like a living wall, to shut out all the external world, its idle pleasures and senseless cares. Immediately to the left of Maudlin an open space presents itself, confusedly peopled with spires and towers, which, retiring behind each other, do not satisfy the imagination, but lead it into the heart of the city, as it were through an open portal cut through a wall of trees. The most conspicuous objects in this part of the view are the two sister towers of All Souls, and the knotted pinnacles of the schools. Finally, still farther to the left, and exactly matching to the groves of Maudlin on the right, rises a similar, but more rich and extensive mass of trees; and from the midst of this lofty mass look forth, in a line, six buildings of various construction, all beautiful in their kind, and all totally different from and contrasting with each other. First on the left stands the rich mosque-like tower of Christ's church gateway, and by its side the plain sober spire of the Cathedral; next comes the light, airy, and elegant spire of All Saints church, which is finely contrasted to the low venerable old knotted pinnacles of Merton, which stand next to it; then rises, in unrivalled loveliness, the sweetest of all spires—that of Saint Mary's church; and by its side, clothed in a solemn gravity, the dome of the Radcliffe Library. To those who are not acquainted with the objects which make up this scene of unparalleled beauty, and who see it for the first time, I should conceive it must bear the semblance of a fairy vision, rather than of a real tangible scene, chiefly raised by human hands—so abstracted and poetical an air does it carry with it. I speak now of this particular portion of the view before us, where the above mentioned six objects seem to rise out of that solid mass of verdure formed by the magnificent elm grove belonging to Christ church college. To me this part of the view invariably suggests the vision of that enchanted city we read of in fairy lore, which the remorseless ocean had swallowed up; but touched by the beauty of a few of her spires, pinnacles, and domes, had left them uncovered, peering above its green waters. But we must quit this enchanting, if not enchanted scene, or we shall lose the sweet stroll I propose to take before breakfast, through the water-

walk of Magdalen. Proceed we then, to cross the elegant modern bridge over the Cherwell (which we have no time to admire as it deserves); delaying a moment, however, in the centre of it, to notice the charming views formed by the emerald meadows on each side; on the left stretching away into the distance, and bounded at the end by richly wooded rising ground, and at the sides by the Gardens of a modern mansion, the fine ivy-bound walls of the Botanic garden, &c.; and on the right by a light eminence crowned with an Italian villa, and the stately elms of Maudlin, affording, between their massy stems, glimpses of that almost sacred grove which we are about to explore: the river winding about in graceful negligence through both the scenes, and giving to them a life and motion which nothing else can.

Before passing from this spot, let us not neglect to pay "honour due" to the stately beauty of the front which Maudlin here presents to the public way. Nothing can be more pure, chaste, and noble, in its detail as well as in its general effect. Here she stands, to greet and usher in our first footsteps to this magnificent city—an earnest and a foretaste of what we are to meet with as we proceed. Time, you see, has steeped her all over in the warm glow of maturity; but without adding a single touch or hint of decay. The lichens that every where cling about her are not grey, but yellow—like the sun-freckles on the face of a matronly beauty. As a single whole—an object to be looked at by itself, and at once—I think this tower and front of Maudlin is among the very finest things we shall see; and the view altogether, from this spot, is most rich and enchanting; but of a more modern character than any other that we shall meet with here.

To convey, by description, any thing like the effect produced by wandering in what is called the water-walk belonging to Magdalen college (passing into its rich shades, from the city, during the glow of a brilliant summer's day) is more than I shall attempt; but the heart and mind, in whatever state they may have previously been, which are not subdued by it to a condition of calm, contemplative peace, "that passeth all understanding," may be pitted indeed, for they are past the influence of all external things. This walk is entirely artificial, and is formed round a rich meadow, which is insulated by a branch of the Cherwell; so that its whole course is by the side of a clear stream. On first entering it from the court of the New Buildings, and turning to the left, we find ourselves in an embowered shade, completely closed in by shrubs of various kinds on each side, with the higher forest-trees shooting up from among them at intervals, and forming arch above arch overhead. On the right side of the walk, for some distance, the screen thus formed is almost impervious, except to the broken patches of sun shine which fall on the footpath; but on the left little openings are made, which, as you proceed afford glimpses into a small park or grove also belonging to this college, planted with noble elms, and stocked with deer. For some distance this walk winds so continually that you are not able at any point to see before you for twenty yards. Presently, however, the arch above grows somewhat higher, and you arrive at an opening, through which is seen a water-mill at work, the wheel of which is entirely covered and hid by an elegant weeping willow, so as to give it the effect of a water-fall. This is an exquisite object, no doubt; but, to say the truth, though the mill is a real one, the whole picture (for it looks like one) has rather too much the appearance of a scene on the stage—so prettily has every thing about it been contrived to aid and mingle with the general effect. At this point the river makes an angle, and the walk, following it, takes the form of a straight line for a considerable distance; so that, on turning the angle, you look along a low and apparently interminable arch of green; the footway being a firm red gravel, fringed on each side with smooth-shaven turf. This, though very pretty as a variety, is not my favourite part of the walk. Proceed we therefore at once to the end of this vista, and, turning another angle, we shall find ourselves in a part of the walk that suddenly widens, and affords a passage through a double line of lofty elms, the interstices between which are, on the left, filled up with shrubs, but on the right they are open, offering a rich view of different parts of all the buildings belonging to this magnificent endowment: tower, chapel, hall, all "bosomed high in tufted trees." At proper intervals of the walk there are seats. At the end next the public road there is a fine view of the bridge and the open country; and to complete the effect of the whole, beautiful cattle of different kinds (they almost seem to have been selected for their beauty) are constantly feeding in the meadow round which the walk runs.

Undoubtedly this walk is the completest thing of the kind that can be seen. The care as well as taste bestowed in bringing its different points to their present perfection, and in keeping them in that state, is admirable; there is not an object shown that had been better concealed nor one concealed that might have been exposed with advantage to the general or particular effect; and we quit this delightful spot with no other regret than that of parting from it. To those who seek, in scenes like this, for any associations but those which Nature supplies them, it may be mentioned that this walk was once among the favourite haunts of Addison, the most amiable of writers, and Collins, the most poetical of poets.

Immediately opposite to us, on entering the High street from Magdalen College, stands the rich rusticated gateway of the Botanic Garden the handsomest erection of the kind in Oxford. We have not time to enter it now; and indeed it offers no particular objects of attraction within; but the vista through it, as seen from the little outer court, is exceedingly sweet and inviting, and together with the gateway itself, forms a picture perfect of its kind. An elegant larch stands on each side the gateway, and a broad venerable yew hedge runs up on each side the walk. These together with a beautiful pink acacia, some noble old Portugal laurels, and other shrubs, and a lofty poplar spiring up above the whole at the extreme end, complete the scene.

We now find ourselves in what may, upon the whole, be considered as the finest street in Europe, both as regards its particular objects of attraction, and its general effect. The great street at Antwerp is the only one of the kind that can compare with it. Let us walk on as far as the bend, which commences just as we reach the front of Queen's College, and then look round us.

Here is a sight not to be paralleled at the present day; and I firmly believe not to have been much surpassed in ancient times. On the left rises the extensive front of University College; venerable from its aspect, but more so from its associations: for it may, probably, be considered as the eldest daughter of *Alma mater*. Opposite to, and finely contrasting with this, is the equally extensive, but entirely modern, front of Queen's, with its rusticated wings, enriched with statues and sculptures, and its solid plain screen joining these to an elegant central gateway, surmounted by an open copula containing a statue of Queen Caroline. A little farther westward stands the simple embattled front of All Souls; and immediately beyond this the exceedingly rich and elaborate front of St. Mary's church, with its projecting portico, supported by twisted columns, like those in Raphael's cartoon of the Beautiful Gate—its parapet of knotted pinnacles—and its exquisite airy spire, rising out of a cluster of smaller ones, like a lovely young mother with her children round her knees. Immediately beyond St. Mary's, on the same side, stands the sister church of All Saints; the elegant modern spire of which can alone be seen from this point of view. All the buildings I have now described are seen at one view, from a particular point in the High street, looking westward; and from the same point, looking in an opposite direction, are seen the Queen-like Tower of Magdalen rising from behind the elms in the front of Magdalen Hall—the Bridge, &c. &c.; the whole forming a scene of stately and impressive beauty not to be conceived of without seeing it, and not to be surpassed. Let us now return to our inn to breakfast, after having thus completed, I hope not uninterestingly, the first portion of our summer's day.

There are few things pleasanter, upon occasion, than the regular confusion of a well-frequented inn, in a populous country town. It keeps speculation perpetually alive. In such a scene the mind can never flag and can never recoil upon itself. A melancholy man should live in the coffee-room of a country inn, whose windows look to the high street. It is a place exorcised of all bad spirits, except licensed ones; and as these only come, unlike Glendower's, when they are called for, we have no right to complain even of them. Here, while discussing our substantial meal (for breakfast is too slight a name for it) of fresh eggs, ham, water-cresses, and coffee—(ever while you live take coffee at an inn, and tea at home; but seek not to know the why? lest I should lack an answer;)—here, while looking out upon the smart shops, the nicely-paved streets, and the trim damsels that are pacing them, mixed here and there with the students in their half gallant, half scholar-like attire, let us endeavour to forget, for a time, the splendid scene we have just been contemplating; otherwise we shall not be duly prepared and fitted to appreciate that which is to come: for we have, as yet had but a slight taste of the architectural as well as picturesque riches of this magnificent spot.

Having forgotten, then, for a moment, if we can, the rich and varied scene just presented to us, let us now look at one altogether different but still more complete in its kind, and still more impressively beautiful—beautiful to a degree that is nothing less than affecting. Quitting the High street through the gate of All Souls, we find ourselves in the outer quadrangle of that college. Here we will only notice the gorgeous painted and gilded sundial, which looks down upon us from the front of the chapel; and which in the midst of the grey antiquity that surrounds it, looks like a richly jewelled diadem glittering on the forehead of a faded and wrinkled beauty. Passing for a moment out of this square through a low portal on the right, we reach a small inner court, the sweetest of its kind in Oxford—braided all over one side with ivy, from the ground to the summit of the walls—festooned from window to window by various parasite plants, clinging by their tendrils and hanging their gorgeously tinted leaves up to the very chimney tops;—and below, the star of the jasmin, shining not unheeded, however mild its light. Returning reluctantly from this sweet spot, we pass through another portal into the inner quadrangle. It is to view this unrivalled *coup-d'œil* from the centre of this court that we are here.

Notwithstanding the amazing number of buildings forming this University, we are never tired of looking at them, on account of their

infinite variety of form and character. But I fear any thing like a detailed description of many of them would very soon have this effect. Still, however, I cannot resist the temptation of endeavouring to convey some notion, however indistinct, of the scene which presents itself from the centre of this court; because there is unquestionably nothing of the kind so beautiful in existence. Standing, then, in the centre of the western side of this court, with its emerald carpet of turf spread out at our feet, we see before us two lofty towers, flanked by ranges of building which occupy the rest of that side of the square. These towers, though entirely differing from all others in Oxford, are of the most chaste and exquisite beauty. They are square, and consist of three compartments, diminishing in size as they rise above each other; the lower compartment surmounted at the corners by knotted pinnacles, and each finished by a pierced parapet. Between the lower compartment of these towers is the stately entrance to the Common Room; and the ranges of buildings which flank the towers, and complete the side of the square, are supported by rich graduated buttresses, each terminating in a knotted pinnacle rising considerably above the roof. On the opposite side to this runs a plain but elegant colonnade, in the centre of which is a handsomely worked iron gateway, surmounted by a low turret, richly ornamented, and taking the form of an imperial crown. The remaining sides of the court consist of uniform ranges of building, pierced by exquisitely-formed pointed windows, and supported at intervals by graduated buttresses, which are, like those on the eastern side, terminated by rich knotted pinnacles.

Thus far of the court, or quadrangle, which consists of buildings forming part of the college itself; and even this may be considered as superior in beauty to any other in Oxford. But, as if to complete and perfect the scene, and render it quite unrivalled, it takes in a view of several of the finest single objects belonging to the University, which seem to look down upon it in silent admiration, as if willingly admitting its claims. At the left corner of the square, looking from the sister towers, rises the sweet spire of St. Mary's Church, and by its side, like a younger sister, that of All Saints. Immediately to the right of the turretted gateway stands the bold and majestic dome of the Radcliffe Library; a little beyond the right hand corner come clustering up the venerable pinnacles of the Schools; and still farther to the right rise a few lofty poplars, that seem to wave their green tops as if to keep a living watch and ward over the ineffable beauty of the scene beneath them. Except the foregoing, and the clouds and sky, not a single object of any kind whatever can be seen from any part of this spot.

It was my intention, in this our first walk, to have described, in addition to the foregoing scenes, the splendid one which presents itself from Radcliffe Square; also the Christ Church Meadows and Elm Walk, the evening scene on the Isis, &c. &c.; but I find that I have already transgressed my limits; I must therefore defer, till a future occasion, the pleasure of accompanying the reader to the spots just named. In the mean time, if I were able (which I am not) to convey an adequate notion of the sensations these objects excite in me, I should not attempt to do so in this place, because my purpose is, not to explain what I feel, but to induce or excite others to feel for themselves. To this end, those who cannot visit these scenes in fact, I would convey thither in fancy; and those who can visit them I would persuade to do so forthwith: promising them, as I confidently may, that if they explore Europe, they will find, in its way, nothing to be compared with the University of Oxford.

*Sir Thomas More.*—When this victim of the miscreant Harry the Eighth came to the scaffold, it seemed ready to fall. Upon which he pleasantly remarked to the Lieutenant, "Pray, Sir, see me safe up; and as for my coming down, let me shift for myself." The executioner asking him for forgiveness, Sir Thomas kissed him and said, "Pluck up thy spirits, man, and be not afraid to do thine office. My neck is very short, take heed therefore, thou strike not away, for saving thine honesty." After he had laid his head upon the block, he bade him stay till he had put his beard aside, "for that had committed no treason." One blow severed his head from his body. "He is dead!" exclaimed Erasmus, "More—whose heart was purer than snow, whose genius was excellent above all his nation." His favourite daughter (Mrs. Margaret Roper) found means to procure his head, after it had been savagely exposed fourteen days on London bridge, which she preserved carefully in a leaden box; and gave directions that at her own funeral it should be placed within her arms:—which was accordingly done.

*Free Discussion.*—Investigation, it is said, frequently leads to doubts, where there were none before. So much the better. If a thing is false, it ought not to be received. If a thing is true, it can never lose in the end by enquiry. On the contrary, the conviction of that man, who has perceived difficulties and overcome them, is always stronger than the persuasion of him who never heard of their existence. The danger which is apprehended arises from superficial knowledge, which carries a man far enough just to perceive difficulties, and there leaves him. In fact, it is not learning, but want of learning, which leads to error in religion:—*Herbert Marsh.*



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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## Petition of Baxter's Widow.

At the solicitation of a respected individual of this society, we have been induced to give publicity to a Petition from the Widow of an industrious man, lately deceased, on behalf of herself and three helpless children, who are by his death bereaved of all means of subsistence. Our Readers will do us the justice to believe, that we would never disparage our pages by the publication of appeals to their bounty in behalf of distress, if we did not know that it was neither doubtful nor fictitious; and they will therefore entertain no apprehension, that in attending to the Prayer of the Petition below, their liberality will be improperly bestowed. We are quite aware, that the practice of petitioning has become a Trade in Calcutta, and so many are the impositions of this nature, that meet us at every corner of the streets, that the hearts of the most charitable have become callous to the misery they depict, because they know that the colouring is false or represents that which does not exist. Our knowledge of this, has the more strongly inclined us to aid in rescuing the Petition of Baxter's Widow from the fate which such Petitions as those alluded to, generally meet; and may often merit, by publicly calling the attention of the community to it, as detailing a case of actual distress, well worthy of their commiseration.

Poor Baxter, the hair dresser, was an industrious and honest man, but it appears, that notwithstanding his assiduity in his humble calling he died involved. It is hoped that the friends of humanity and of honest industry, will evince their respect for both, by alleviating the miseries of those whom this poor man's death has left destitute. We will only add, that Subscriptions will be received at this Office. The Petition is as follows:—

### TO THE CHARITABLE LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY OF CALCUTTA.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF  
ELIZABETH BAXTER (WIDOW  
OF JAMES BAXTER, DECEASED.)

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,  
That your Petitioner, impressed with a conviction of your benign disposition, ventures to obtrude on your valuable time with this Paper, explaining her distressed situation, and supplicating for relief at your generous hands.

The recent loss of her husband, who died involved (notwithstanding his utmost endeavours to settle with his Creditors, and lay by a pittance for his family) has left them in the greatest possible distress. Brought thus low, and left in the wide world without any support, your Petitioner cannot but entertain sanguine hopes from your bounty and munificence. Besides herself, your Petitioner has a family consisting of two daughters and a son, to provide for, all of whom are suffering from the want of the common necessities of life. Your Petitioner therefore flatters herself that her case will not be deemed undeserving of consideration. She looks forward with confidence for that support which was so liberally extended towards her late husband. For this act of benevolence your Petitioner will ever be grateful, and pray to heaven for your health and prosperity to the last period of her existence.

### LIST OF BENEFACTORS.

|                 |         |     |
|-----------------|---------|-----|
| A Family, ..... | Sa. Rs. | 300 |
| H. W. H., ..... |         | 50  |
| E. A. N., ..... |         | 50  |
| F. T. H., ..... |         | 50  |
| W. P.—p., ..... |         | 50  |

### HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA, THIS-DAY.

|                  | H.       | M. |
|------------------|----------|----|
| Morning .....    | 1        | 12 |
| Evening .....    | 1        | 36 |
| Moon's Age ..... | 28 days. |    |

## Old Mode of Puffing Revived.

JOHN BULL's evil genius, has tempted him to try the revival of a mode of Puffing long since practised, and repeated again and again, without any success; and, surely, now that the Tauric Oracle has evidently fallen into its second childhood, when "the lean and slippered pantaloon" boasts of bulk and quantity, we would be more than justified in merely reminding him of our predecessor's cutting jokes on the superior voluminousness of Calcutta Dailies and Auction Catalogues. But since JOHN BULL has recurred so often to the subject of types, we may be excused in devoting a few words to this dry topic; which he appears to consider so interesting to his readers.

One day (May 1) he tells his readers, that he has reduced his margins: that he moreover "purposes to study to avoid, as much as possible, all headings to articles;" altho' he confesses that the space which is thus occupied in certain other papers, may have a very handsome appearance to some eyes, and is undoubtedly a great relief to the head of the Editor and hands of the Compositors!! Relief to the head of the Editor to invent appropriate "Heads" for his articles! This is a notion worthy of the BULL; as well as what follows, that such headings, he conceives, "are of no value to the mind of the readers." All head-work, therefore, he despises; and ornament he equally disregards; and will have nothing but solid matter, which his readers may devour by the square yard, and digest the best way they can. But with all his affected desire for condensation, he makes types the subject of an "Editorial Article," and also of a "Notice to Correspondents" in the same paper; as if he thought the best way to shorten a dull story was to cut it into two.

On Tuesday, the Editor again resumes the subject of types; which, in the dearth he feels of matter for speculation, may perhaps afford him a subject for as many essays as the famous "Bridge of Tension and Suspension," so well known to the Public. Lord Cochrane's Defence which occupied so much of our Paper yesterday, prevented us from noticing earlier our Cotemporary's typographical lucubrations.

The late Intelligence from South America, (in which we anticipated JOHN BULL as well as all the Papers in Calcutta,) given in the JOURNAL of Friday last, was printed in the largest type we use, and in the most conspicuous manner, as being both new and interesting. JOHN BULL copying it at second hand, naturally wished to cram the same matter into as small a space as he could, by printing it in a diminutive character and over-running the Headings, with that disdain of ornament above noticed; and now he makes a boast, that his second hand news only occupied about one column; concealing entirely the fact, that a great part of the JOURNAL is printed in a smaller type than that which was used in printing these translations from the Chilian Gazettes; and then from premises thus uncandidly stated, he draws an inference, which the Editor himself cannot but know is quite contrary to the fact; and which can hardly deceive even the most careless of his readers, unless they place an ill-deserved confidence in the Editor's candour and veracity. If we could descend to the same means of imposition, and were equally regardless of typographical elegance, considering nothing but quantity of matter, we could easily take a piece of verse out of the BULL, and by over-running all the lines, print it in perhaps half the space or less. We would advise JOHN BULL, following up this brilliant discovery in printing, to announce for publication the Poems of Byron or Scott without any unnecessary waste of Paper, by division into lines, verses or stanzas; with all headings cut off, and the margins pared down to the Better Press!

We might now leave our cotemporary to settle with his own conscience and the honest understanding of the Public, the truth of the assertion that JOHN BULL, including one page of advertisements, actually equals the matter contained in the JOURNAL!!! and assert without fear of contradiction that the JOURNAL contains at least double the quantity of intelligence given in the BULL; and that the labour and expence of preparing even the latter Press, is at least double that necessary for the paper.

of our cotemporary. But following our intellectual opponents method of eking up the bulk of his Paper by including in his calculation advertisements about Pale Ale, Hams, and Cheese, with Oilman's Stores, (which, by the bye, he perhaps justly considers the best part of it), we might say that the JOURNAL consisting of six Sheets, is therefore three times the size of JOHN BULL, while it is only double the price!

A rare accident affords us a happy illustration of the subject. By the greatest good luck in the world, we are able this very day to extract a whole column of original matter from the BULL, worthy of republication which may not occur in several months again. And his long column, as our readers who choose to compare them will perceive, makes little more than a column of ours; although instead of striking off or over-running headings as the BULL did on a similar occasion, we have added titles where they were not! Thus, according to the Tauric mode of reasoning, twelve columns, or a sheet and a half of the JOURNAL can contain nearly as much as the three pages of the BULL; so if he continue to cut off a whole page from his Readers and sell it for Advertisements, as seems to be his anxious wish, the JOURNAL must, according to his own mode of calculation, nearly triple the quantity of matter at only double the price of the BULL!

But the mere quantity of matter is not the only part of our Paper that is expensive, or to which we attach value. We have within the last fortnight or little more, given three original Engravings, two of them illustrating subjects connected with this part of the world, which are not only valuable in themselves, but as encouraging the Art among the Natives of India; besides a Brass Cut of Fonthill Abbey, very neatly executed, and hardly less expensive. The headings of the different articles, contained in our pages, instead of being a detraction from their value, as JOHN BULL supposes, will, we are convinced, be considered by the Public as a great advantage, because they enable the reader to find at once any article he may wish to refer to; and the Index, published with every volume, prepared with great care by a person whose attention is devoted to that object, is another advantage to which JOHN BULL is equally unable to aspire.

Thus, were we like the Editor of JOHN BULL, to consider a newspaper as only an article of trade, and sell it like cloth by the yard, we might treat his comparisons with indifference; but the JOURNAL will always, we trust, have a regard to higher objects than mere sums and numbers, and while it views the public interest as paramount to its own, it need never descend to be weighed in the scales of sordid lucre as a mere trading commodity. We shall always endeavour to comprise in its pages, a due proportion of the light and entertaining articles combined with an adequate quantity of intelligence of a solid and instructive kind, without troubling ourselves about the artifices of envy which would represent us as endeavouring to impose upon the public, by publishing "as little as possible without rendering the object too apparent,"—a charge which only folly or malignity could have made, and which every liberal mind must regard with contempt.

### New Meteorological Fact.

SIR, To the Editor of the Journal.

Having read in the letter of A. E. in the JOURNAL of the 28d April, the following Query,—

"If a Meteor were to dart from Java towards the Western Provinces, would it not be seen before its arrival at Allahabad?"

I deem it justice to DR. TYTLER, to mention, that either on the 21st or 28th January, (I forget which,) while driving in my Buggy in the evening, soon after sun-set, I saw a very large Meteor, proceeding to the Westward. It appeared to me, to have a direction from S. E. to N. W. and was one of the largest and most vivid I had ever seen. I regret that I did not more particularly note the day of the month, but it was on a Sunday, and I think one of the days I have mentioned. Whether this has any connexion with the fall of the AEROLITES of DR. TYTLER, that Gentleman will decide.

Your's obediently,

Chunar, May 1, 1823.

NEMO.

### Comforts of Church=Goers.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Permit me, thro' the medium of your valuable Paper, to suggest one improvement among the many which your numerous Correspondents have recently brought to public notice. Being a regular Church Goer, I have attended Divine Service every Sunday morning, until within the last few weeks; when I found my health so much impaired by exposure to the sun, as to render it absolutely necessary for me to keep within doors after nine o'clock, and not to venture a trip back to my house in Italy, in a palanquin heated like an oven, by standing in the meridian sun for several hours. I understand that some years ago, it was the practice, during the South West Monsoon, to commence Divine Service at the Mission Church, at eight o'clock in the morning; but this was not allowed to be continued, I learn, on the plea of the early hour being at variance with the Canonical Laws:—With due deference, I beg respectfully to call on those in authority, to compassionate, as well the condition of palanquin and carriage passengers, as those of the more humble pedestrians, and the yet more miserable situation of the poor bearers, ayces, &c. by a relaxation of the rigid observance of the Canonical Law, in respect to the hours of service in a tropical climate. I feel confident, that an announcement to commence service during the hot weather at seven o'clock, would be hailed by all classes of the Christian Community, rich and poor, as a good Regulation; and most of them would be found willingly to sacrifice the comparatively trivial comfort of lying in bed an hour later than usual, and either breakfasting before or after Church, to suffering the dangerous effects of travelling through the sun at such a season during mid-day.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

Calcutta, May 5, 1823.

ROBERTSON

### Cruelty of Chowkedars.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

From a remark of yours in the Journal of yesterday, I have been induced to send you these few observations, as I consider myself bound to satisfy the public anxiety, with reference to the subject alluded to, viz. the shameful and unparalleled outrage committed on the persons of Mr. B. (Purser of the Ship Resource, now on his voyage to England) and myself, by the Chowkedars adjoining my house.

It was the most unprovoked and cruel assault that could possibly be imagined, as can be proved by those who witnessed the scene. To dignity or rank in society, I do not make any pretensions; but by the degradation inflicted on my moral character, and the insult offered to my feelings as a Briton, I cannot but feel deeply injured. Cruelty is ever abominable; but when inflicted without the shadow of reason, it becomes diabolical: and the instruments of it cannot but be detested, even by the best of men, who desire, in the spirit of Christianity, to render good for evil. I have been a prisoner of war; but the treatment of a hostile nation, was kindness when compared with the monstrous inflictions of these miscreants, whose delight it is to torture and oppress defenceless men; particularly after having firmly secured them in their power.

Those who witnessed the base treatment referred to, did all they could to rescue us from our situation; but they could only in part attain their wishes. The particulars of the case, have been laid before the City Magistrates; but a month, and upwards, has now elapsed, during which time I have been kept in suspense to know the result of their investigation. As yet nothing has been communicated to me, although from my knowledge of the highly honorable characters of those by whom the decision on the case is to be pronounced, I have no doubt that they will eventually award to the Offenders the punishment they deserve.

Sir, your humble Servant,

May 6, 1823.

JOHN COX.



### Catholic Church Funds.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

M. A. M. has put several questions connected with the employment of the Catholic Church Funds in the maintenance of the Portuguese Ministers attached to it. The whole can be answered together.—The Funds are laid out in the preservation of the Edifice, the purchase of Vestments and other requisites, and the payment of an establishment of Organists and other servants; and with the help of these, the Vicar and his Coadjutors are enabled to obtain their living, the latter only getting enough to appear decent, while the former has always been known to amass some thousands in the course of a very few years. This is the maintenance I allude to, and this they could not procure had there not been a Church, with Funds, more than enough, to keep up all that is necessary for assisting them to say Masses and perform their other piously functions.

Having disposed of M. A. M., I cannot refrain from saying a word to your correspondent Mr. B.—, whose letter is not only raw throughout, but meanly insulting to the whole of the Catholic community. He says the Wardens did not oppose the wishes of the people. What then was the meaning of their reply to an Address from a large body of them, which appeared in your JOURNAL of the 15th of February (p. 635-6)? In this, it is true, they gave no reason for not complying with their wishes; but did they not flatly refuse meeting those wishes? B.—. seems to know some of their secrets, for he has said in the concluding part of his letter, that "the Wardens would have been happy to have supported Mr. Murphy, if they had not conceived it an unnecessary burden to the Church." Here is a declaration! A great portion of the congregation scarcely understand two words of Portuguese, and yet giving to the Church the aid of a Minister who could preach &c. in a language understood by these men, would be an unnecessary burden!! So much for B.—'s declaration on this head; a declaration worthy to be placed in the Archives of the Vestry Room.

I shall now ask all sensible Catholics, whether it is not an insult to say, that "the Wardens have spent fortunes for the erection and support of the Church?" What then, has become of the Subscriptions raised from time to time, since the Wardens of some thirty years back committed depredations on the Funds which then existed? and if the Wardens of modern times have expended fortunes in alone supporting the Church, where is all the money paid by the rich and poor for Graves, High Masses, Funerals, Offices, &c. and what has been done with all the bequests, in money and lands, made by pious men and women on their death-beds? It is a pity to crush or bear hard upon a weak opponent; but as B.—. has stood forward as the Champion of the Wardens, he must not be allowed to speak at random and skulk away, leaving thereby a false impression on the public mind; and I hope, after he reads this letter, he will take advice and attempt some explanation, or offer an apology.

I should be sorry to refuse my applause to any one who may in any cause bear "the burden and heat of the day;" and I should doubly regret did I not assist in holding up as examples of imitation men whose "veteran years proclaim they are hastening to a Saviour's Bosom to enjoy the fruits of their labours." But as hoariness of the head does not necessarily indicate that it must have borne "heat" and "burden," many of them getting grey in the shade, where they are nursed in the lap of pride, vanity and intemperance, I must in the present case decline joining in the tribute paid by B.—. Let the Wardens take a liberal and enlarged view of the actual condition of the Congregation of the Catholic Church, and let them appease the discontent which prevails by adding to the existing Establishment of Ministers one who can meet the wants of the English portion of it, and I am sure some would not very deeply regret, although their veteran years might call others away to realize the fruits of their labour.

Your obedient Servant,

A PARISHIONER.

May 6, 1823.

### Adventures in South America.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

In yesterday's Paper I observed an Engraving of a Suspension Bridge as used in America. I also had a friend who made a visit to the same place, and from his Memoranda I send you the following.

April 6, 1823.

Your's obediently,

S—.

We left Santiago on Monday the 9th instant, on our trip to the Southward, and crossed the plain of Maypo, where was fought the battle of that name which established the Independence of Chili. Being considerably to the left,—for we pursued the middle path across,—we proposed to return that way, but were however prevented. At the distance of 15 miles, we found the country much improved, its situation somewhat lower than that part of the plain we had passed, and better watered; though the other might be irrigated by means of the canal which runs along the base of the range of hills that bound its Eastern side. The first night we stopped at Gravelo, about 12 leagues from Santiago; and next morning, rising at day-break, continued our journey to Rencagua, 10 leagues distant. The country still continued to improve. I observed that the Southern sides of the hills, were more clothed with wood and shrubs than the Northern: a circumstance rendered strongly evident on our passing the Angostural or Straits, so called because a range of hills run East and West having a small passage through them. The appearance of Rencagua, as we approached it, and which was visible some few leagues off, is extremely gratifying to the beholder. It is situated on rather an elevated spot of ground, and as the houses are as white, it forms a prominent feature in the landscape. Behind it, at no great distance, is the first range of the Cordillera, and in the extreme back-ground are the snowy Andes. The fore-ground is composed principally of wood, with here and there breaks, which open to the view fine pasture lands. At two in the afternoon, we arrived, but were a little puzzled at first, not knowing where to put up.

At length crossing a street about 100 yards in breadth, we observed the door of a house open, with a family sitting at dinner, and made bold to ask refreshment and lodging, which was not less readily, than agreeably, granted. We found that our kind hostess was a widow, had a family of 4 girls, each beautiful; and a lovely little boy. Such a family I never saw, but once. And after regaling us in the most hospitable manner, such as her scanty means afforded, took us into her vineyard, which was her only support, and a very fine one it was, though small. She then began relating the little story of her woes.—She had been married some years prior to the revolution, to a Spaniard. He was a Royalist,—and when war began to desolate this lovely country, took up arms to fight for his King. After the battle of Canerriada he was never heard of. She supposed he was slain—he had fallen the victim of ill-judged loyalty; and left her with a large family unprovided for: but she trusted in "Nuestro Señor" to aid her in supporting them. I was quite moved by this relation. It was a piteous thing, thought I, casting my eyes to the ground, and with such a lovely family too, and then turning them up, met the piercing gaze of a pair of large black soft eyes. Oh this is too much! said I to myself; what with pity and such eyes, I had better, move away. So we walked out to see the town. The sun was just then setting, and threw a soft and varied charm over the distant prospect. The mellow tints reflected from the glowing west on the snowy summits of the Eastern mountains, were all in unison with my feelings. I thought I could have remained there altogether. From the reverie I was in, I was awakened by the solemn tone of the Vesper Bell, and then startled by the sudden appearance of my fair friend. She was alone, and going to Vespers; and had on the black dress customary in Catholic countries. I approached to speak, when she said, her mother was waiting to give us tea, and then glided into the Church.

We returned. Our evening passed away very pleasantly. There was no ceremony: it was nature's banquet; where man's better feelings overcome his vanity—where he wishes to appear only what he is, without lording it over his fellow-creatures by

his rank, riches or dress. Here there were none of those little envious feelings so often experienced in higher circles towards one's fellow creatures. It was all good-will, and cheerfulness, and sociality,—that Christian-like charity which produces, though it is not the effect of familiarity. After such an evening, I could not but sleep well; and I did so, though a saddle was my pillow and horse clothes my bedding.

Had we not been deterred by information given us by the Governor of the disturbed state of the country, we should have proceeded to Talca and Concepcion: the latter, once the second city in the country, but which had been reduced by the revolution to a rank with the lowest. As it was, we changed our route. At day break, therefore, proceeding to the Eastward amongst the mountains, we visited the celebrated baths of Cauquenes, distant 6 leagues. I have scarcely ever received so much pleasure in travelling as this trip to the Baths; not with reference to them separately, but from the beauty and originality of the adjacent scenery, with which I was delighted beyond my power of explanation: indeed all the way as soon as we came in sight of the view, a distance of 3 leagues from Rencagua, there was a grandeur and a loveliness which it is impossible to describe, but in very inadequate terms. We passed through woods, the leaves of whose trees were odoriferous, situated on lofty hills, and through the various openings, looked down on the rapid and roaring river. In the first distance, mountains on mountains met the sight; some covered with trees and verdure, and others barren, as they approximated to the Cordillera, whose stupendous summits, clothed with eternal snow, formed the limits of the scene. Nature appeared dressed in all her rude and primal magnificence. Sometimes we descended, then the path led up some steep and lofty precipice, where, but for the mules' safe step, we should have been dashed to atoms. As we approached the Baths, the scene increased in beauty: it became wilder: there was a perfect silence except the distant hoarse murmuring of the river. It appeared as though we had come to the confines of the world. My friend, a great traveller, never witnessed so sublime a picture, as when the promontory from which the springs which form the Baths rise, opened on our wondering and delighted eyes.

We remained only a few hours, sufficient however to notice what was remarkable. The Baths are indeed curious enough, differing in temperature, as well as in their physical properties. The degree of heat in one, were by Fahrenheit 120; others were tepid; and some icy cold; but what appeared to me a great natural curiosity was, that near to a hot spring, about 6 feet, sprung up one quite cold. I did not bathe, but only tasted the waters; some of which were strongly impregnated with sulphureous, as were others, with saline particles. As it was late in the season, there were few visitors; but so extremely beneficial are these waters esteemed in a variety of complaints, that they are much frequented. I could have spent a month there with pleasure; and though without company, I would have found sufficient society in the beauties of nature. On the day following, we took leave of our benevolent hostess, who was quite as sorry to part with us, as we with her; but we could not remain: it was necessary to return to the realities of life. Here then was an illusory charm which the novelty of scene created in the imagination,—but we promised to return,—and the poor widow remained happy in the idea, which was never realized. How much do such little scenes, which cross the path-way of life, soften the labors of its journey. Only two days, and how much had occurred to interest all one's feelings. It appeared like a delightful dream; the duration, short; but the impressions, lasting. We set off for Santiago, baited our horses at Granera, and struck into another road from that by which we had come; in order to visit the Bridge of Maypo, in our way, to which, as we tracked our path on elevated ground situated at the base of the 1st range of the Cordillera, we found the prospects much finer, and more extensive; and I would recommend every one to take the same road in preference to the other, for one strong reason,—the convenience of crossing the Maypo by a Bridge, instead of trouble, and oftentimes great danger, which attends the fording of it, from its extreme rapidity over a very uneven bed. Though we had been fortunate as well in the season of the year, as in having an experienced Guide, so that when we crossed it in going to Rencagua, and passed four arms, into which it divided, yet the water only, in parts, reached up to the horses' breasts. The

bridge over the Maypo is similar to that of Cauquenes, only much longer, as the river is considerably broader. Its construction though most simple, has something curious, and fails not to create a degree of surprise and astonishment, heightened, in passing, by a very disagreeable sensation to the unaccustomed, from its seasaw motion and apparent slight construction. The rushing waters below which one sees directly under ones feet, produces giddiness and disturbs the equilibrium; but no danger need be apprehended when the materials are sound: nor in such case, has any accident been known to happen, though imprudent feats of horse racing often take place. The bridge is formed merely of sticks 1½ to 2 inches in circumference, by 3 to 6 long, bound strongly together by slips of bulls' hides; and its sides are of the same material, only that the sticks are placed vertically and the slips horizontally. It is then stretched across the river, and strongly fastened on each side to rocks, or to huge frames fixed in the ground. The length of this Bridge at Maypo was about 150 yards, and was of sufficient breadth to admit of one cart. I say cart, because carriages are never used for travelling; the roads being generally so bad.

We took up our quarters this night at a wretched farm house or hovel; and the only place we could procure to sleep in, was an out-house quite delapidated and the door wanting, so that the cold air (for it was the end of Autumn) entered on all sides; but yet though I had only the peltows or saddle cloths of the country, made of guanacho and vicugna skins, with a blanket over me, I slept as well as I ever had done on the softest bed of down: so effectual is the force of custom when necessity induces it. Perhaps, in few parts of the world, is travelling attended with greater inconveniences; for there are no Inns, and the houses in the country are widely separated from each other: there are not always hovels to shelter one, and the bare ground is often the lot of the wearied traveller; but there are few wild animals, and no noxious reptiles; and the benignity of the climate, in the greater part of the year, renders it unattended by any of those often fatal consequences which would be the result of this mode of travelling in other, less favored, countries of the world. The people of the country, always proportion their stages, as do also foreigners who are acquainted with the manners and customs of the country, so as to get to one hacienda\* to dinner and to another to sleep, although they are not even known to the owners. But so kind, so hospitable, are the inhabitants, that your presence is esteemed a favour; you are received with the most cordial welcome, and are treated in the most handsome manner. Every thing is set before you that the house affords; and it is expected that you will without the least ceremony, ask and call for what you want. This hospitality has been attributed, by some, as a reason for the non-erection of Inns: without wishing to depreciate the Chilone, I am led to believe, that it is rather the effect, than the cause; and though this virtue is more prevalent, more widely practised in barbarous and uncivilized, than in civilized countries, I look upon it as less the effect of moral, than of the want of natural civilization; for true knowledge and wisdom undoubtedly lead us to a Hindu treatment as well of our own as of the animal species; and but for there not existing that necessity, there is no doubt that we should be as hospitable as in Chili. Independent of this country hospitality, I must observe, that the general treatment of foreigners in Santiago, evinces a strong feeling of benevolence; and shews the general disposition of the inhabitants to cheerfulness and sociality.

The following morning, about 10, we arrived in Santiago; between which, and the place of our night's lodging, the plain extended no less than 7 or 8 leagues. I have much to regret the too early termination of this intended journey to the Southward, and of the hopes I had formed of visiting Concepcion. To judge with accuracy of the natural advantages of this country, over almost every one on the face of the Globe, one ought to travel to Valdivia; of which, and the desert of Atacama, this part may be looked as the medium of climate and fertility. Between the same parallels of latitude, there is hardly a country on the face of the earth, that has such diversity of soil and climate; or that presents prospects so barren, or so beautifully clothed, in verdure.

\* Estate or Residence.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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## Selections.

**Madras, April 24, 1823.**—Yesterday St. George's Day, the Anniversary on which His Majesty's Birth Day, is kept, was observed with every demonstration of loyalty and respect. A salute of as many guns as His Majesty is years of age, was fired at sun-rise from the Fort Battery, and a Royal Salute at noon. The Royal Standard was hoisted on the Fort at sun-rise, and continued flying during the day; the Fort Flag Staff, as well as the Signal Staff and Yard, were decorated with the Flags of different Nations. His Majesty's Ships in the Roads were also dressed, and fired the customary salutes. The colours of the other Ships were flying—and the day concluded with a Grand Ball and Supper, given at the Banqueting Room by the Honorable the Governor and Lady Munro, to the whole of the Society at the Presidency.

**Madras Appointments.**—Mr. H. M. Blair, Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Cingalept.

Mr. P. Grant, Head Assistant to the Principal Collector and Magistrate in the Southern Division of Arcot.

The Rev. M. Thomson, M. A. to be Junior Chaplain at St. George's Church.

We are now enabled to give from our Notes, a brief statement of the CHARGE of the CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR EDMOND STANLEY, to the Grand Jury, on the opening of the Session of Oyer and Terminer on Monday the 21st instant.

THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE commenced his Charge by observing, that among the several offences which the Calendar presented for the consideration of the Grand Jury at the present Sessions, and which are more numerous than usual, there were very few upon which they could require the assistance of any particular observations or instruction from the Court.—From the informations returned by the Magistrates, many of the cases appear to be such as they had been frequently called upon in the capacity of Grand Jurors to consider, and having carefully read all the informations, he conceived they would be of opinion, that the evidence whether direct or circumstantial affords sufficient probable circumstances of guilt in most if not all the cases to warrant the Grand Jury in finding the Bills, and sending the parties accused, to their trial before another Jury, who are appointed by law to hear the evidence on both sides, and to determine upon the guilt or innocence of the Prisoners, of the charge imputed to them by the indictments.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE then adverted to two cases of homicide which appeared upon the Calendar—the first was the case of *Thomas Barnes*, a Mariner on board the Ship *WOODWARD*, charged with the wilful murder of *Thomas Lislely*, another mariner, on the high seas, on board the Ship *WOODWARD*, on the 31st of March last. He stated that the Criminal Jurisdiction of the Court and the Grand Jury extended by the Charter not only to all capital and other offences committed within the limits of Madras by any person residing here of whatever country, nation or description, he may be, and to all offences committed by British Subject in any of the Territories subject to the Government of Madras, or within any of the dominions of the Native Princes of India, in alliance with the Government—but the Admiralty Jurisdiction of the Court by the Charter, as explained and declared by 53d George the 3d, c. 155, sec. 110, authorized them to inquire of, and take cognizance of all Crimes perpetrated by any person or person upon the high seas in all quarters of the Globe, and those maritime offences which were formerly before the Statute of 28 Hen. 8, tried according to the course of the Civil Law without Jury, are now triable according to the course of the Common Law by Grand and Petit Jury, and by the same rules of Evidence as offences committed on land.—THE CHIEF JUSTICE then observed upon the circumstances of the case of *Thomas Barnes* as disclosed by the informations, and it appeared by the concurrent testimony of all the Officers and Mariners of that Ship, that the unfortunate deceased man was greatly the aggressor throughout the whole of that business—that he was in a state of intoxication and officiously interfered with, and interrupted several of the Mariners of the Ship in the performance of their duty of drawing up water under the orders of their superior officer—that he abused and assaulted the prisoner *Thomas Barnes*, and struck him with his fist three times, and drew blood from him, notwithstanding which the prisoner acted moderately, and peaceably declined the quarrel, and retreated to the other side of the ship where he was pursued by the deceased, who repeated his blows, and insisted on the prisoner's fighting with him, which he declined, but at length was forced to return the blows in his own defence, and to compel the deceased to desist, and at length the deceased fell on the deck, either in consequence of a blow from the prisoner, or as some of the witnesses seem to think, fell on his head in consequence of the intoxicated state he was in, which produced the rupture of a blood vessel in the head of which he died that night.—THE CHIEF JUSTICE said that he had no doubt that this case would turn out in the final end and issue of the prosecution to be no more than a favourable case of *Man-*

*slaughter*, and the circumstances seem to bring it as nearly bordering upon that species of homicide which is called excusable self-defence upon a sudden quarrel without malice, express or implied, as any case could be, or perhaps according to the opinion of some it might be homicide by misadventure only—but altho' the informations presented this favourable view of the case, he recommended the Grand Jury to find the Bill of Indictment presented to them as an act of justice towards the prisoner as well as the public—their throwing out the Bill might be injurious to the prisoner in as much as it would afford him no security against a new prosecution at some future day by some malevolent prosecutor, who might charge him with this murder on the high seas before any British Admiralty jurisdiction in any quarter of the world where the Prisoner might happen to be, when perhaps his witnesses might be dead or dispersed in different parts, and consequently he might be wholly unable to bring forward his defence—the verdict of the Petit Jury can only afford him that security, in consequence of his being allowed by Law, if he be acquitted, to plead the verdict for ever after, as a bar to any other indictment in this or in any other Court for the same offence.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE then observed upon the case of *Thomas Ball*, a Private in His Majesty's 54th Regiment, stationed at Bangalore, charged with the murder of *Patrick Conroy*, a Bugler in the same Company at Bangalore, on the 19th December last. It appeared that the Company went out to Drill and Field Exercise early on that morning, and that the Serjeant took the precaution the night before, of collecting all the Ball Ammunition from the Men of his Company and issued Blank Cartridges to each man of the Company—and that when they arrived on the ground the next morning, the Captain ordered the men to close, and in the course of the Drill, he called out the Prisoner *Ball* the left hand man to the front—and ordered him to be particular in firing, and to level his musket properly—the prisoner fired accordingly, and the deceased, *Patrick Conroy* the Bugler, who was seven or eight paces in front of the prisoner, cried out that he was wounded, and he was immediately carried to the Hospital—it was a very foggy morning, and it appears by the evidence of *Mr. Leich* the Surgeon of the Regiment, that the deceased received a wound in the lower part of the abdomen, which produced an Inflammation, of which he died in 16 hours—he was opened and nothing could be discovered except a small particle of cloth in the intestines, and his opinion as to the cause of his death was, that the wound had been inflicted by the hard part of the cartridge, the powder therein being old and caked and not by any metallic substance, and that there was no appearance of any ball or metallic substance having entered or passed thro' the deceased—so that this will turn out to be a case of pure homicide by misadventure occasioned by accident which no human prudence could have foreseen or prevented.—The prisoner *Ball* was doing a lawful act by the orders of his Commanding Officer without intention of bodily harm to any person and without any will, want of caution or negligence on his part—and therefore it could amount to no more than accidental homicide.

His Lordship then directed the attention of the Grand Jury to the case of *Robert Thomas Moore* and *Cyprian Rodriguez*, charged with forging and uttering a promissory note, knowing it to be forged, for the sum of 2,100 Rupees, dated the 15th March last, and payable 3 months after date, purporting to have been passed by *Richard Arthur Ashton* to *Robert William Bruce*, with intent to defraud the Government Bank, where it was sent in a letter charged to be forged, in the name of *Mr. Bruce*, and directed to the Treasurer of the Bank, for the purpose of being discounted—He was sorry to observe that several forgeries and frauds had lately been attempted on the Government Bank, many of which have been detected and defeated by the vigilance and ability of *Mr. Edward Sullivan*, who is now at the head of that department.—The Government Bank here was established under an Act of Parliament—the Act 47 Geo. 3. c. 68, sec. 8, which empowered the different Governments of India to establish Banks at the different Presidencies for the deposit and loan of money, and the discount of Bills and Notes—and it is of the greatest consequence to the public that that useful establishment should be protected as far as possible from all impositions and forgeries—it was a case of great consequence as it relates, to public credit and the circulation of paper in a Commercial Settlement—He wished to abstain as much as possible from entering into a detail of the circumstances stated in the information—least on the one hand, we should run the hazard of defeating just prosecutions by a premature disclosure of the evidence, or by exparte statements on the other, prejudices the public mind against the persons to be tried—but he had no doubt that the Grand Jury would feel it their duty to investigate the charge, and the evidence very minutely, and if they find it supported by strong probable evidence to find the bill and put the parties on their trial; the offence of forging Bills, Notes, or other securities for money, or uttering them knowing them to be forged, is made transportable misdemeanor in India by the Stat. 53. Geo. 3. c. 155, sec. 115; considering forgery therefore, as a misdemeanor in India (altho' it is a capital offence in England) all concerned in forging or uttering with a guilty knowledge any of the securities for money mentioned in the act are principals, the same acts of procurement, ad-

vice and incitement which would make a person an accessory before the fact in felony, will make him a principal in a misdemeanor, and consequently if one man employs or sends another to utter or put away a forged note, knowing it to be forged, and he does accordingly utter or attempt to negotiate it—the absent inciter or procurer is as much a principal in the offence of uttering as if he was present at the time—as it is often difficult to prove the actual fact of forgery by any particular person—the Law makes the offence of uttering or putting away a forged note a substantive offence in itself, but the gist and essence of the offence is the guilty knowledge of the parties that it was forged, and the intent to defraud, and that can in general be discovered only by the acts, conduct and demeanor of the parties, by deceitful practices, false letters, tokens or pretences to obtain the object and the money upon the security; and in these sort of cases in order to demonstrate guilty knowledge, evidence has been admitted of other forged notes of a similar description having been uttered by the party charged or having been found in his possession at or about the same time, of the offence with which he is charged and other circumstances which may evidence a guilty mind.—It has also been decided in many cases that the person whose name is forged—either as the maker or indorser of a note or the acceptor of a Bill of Exchange—or the supposed obligor in a Bond charged to be forged is not a competent witness to prove the forgery, or to disprove his own hand-writing as he is supposed to have an interest to discharge himself from his liability on the note or other security unless his interest is entirely divested or taken away which it may be in certain cases—but in general he is held to be an incompetent witness to prove the fact of the forgery of his own hand writing, or perhaps to prove any collateral fact tending to the proof of the forgery—the principle upon which the party whose hand is forged is excluded from giving evidence on such a criminal prosecution on the ground of interest has been questioned by some able writers, but it is now agreed that having been excluded by a long series of determinations—the point of his incompetency cannot now be disputed, and in general the fact of the note or security not being the hand writing of the party is capable of being proved and must be proved by other witnesses.

Among the other cases on the Calendar there appear several charges of Burglary—the facts related before the Magistrates seem to bring those respective cases within the legal definition of that crime—he need only therefore in general terms state, that Burglary is committed when any person with intent to commit a felony breaks into or cuts his way in the night time, into the Dwelling house of another, even into a hut constructed of mats and straw like those inhabited by some of the natives.—In all those cases the persons injured and prosecuted are natives—but altho' the facts like most of their offences, partake much more of fraud than of force, and have very little of that character which renders Burglaries so formidable to life as well as property in Europe—yet it will be their duty to send the several Prisoners for trial, if they are satisfied the offence was committed in the night, and the other requisites necessary to constitute the crime are supported by the evidence, particularly in a place where from the nature of the climate houses are so exposed—lifting a latch, picking a lock, opening with a false key, or boring a hole in the wall to obtain entrance are sufficient breakings in Law to constitute the crime. Some of those prisoners if convicted may appear to be a fit object of that merciful power of commutation of the sentence of death—by which the legislature has enabled the Court at this distance to mitigate the severity of the Law—and he was sure no Judge would ever sit on this Bench who would not be ready as far as public duty will allow, to exercise the most gratifying power that belongs of his office—but whether there be just cause for extending mercy to a prisoner must depend on all the circumstances of his case and cannot be known to you or indeed to any of us previous to his trial.

The only remaining case he would allude to was the case of Soobbee, charged with stealing an Infant Child from its parents for the purpose of selling it, commonly called kidnapping—this is a most grievous offence, and in England by a late Statute, 54th Geo. 3d, is made a felony punishable in the same manner as Grand Larceny to the person who steals any child under the age of ten years or receives or harbours such child for a guilty purpose—but as that statute does not extend to India, it remains a high misdemeanor here, punishable by fine and improvement.

On the general rules of law which the Grand Jury are required to observe, it was unnecessary for him to enlarge to gentlemen of their experience and character, who had so often discharged that important duty, and were so well acquainted with the ordinary distribution of Criminal Justice—he would therefore refer them to the several objects of their inquiry, assuring them that if any difficulty in point of law or evidence should occur in the course of those inquiries upon which they might require advice, they might be always certain of receiving every assistance that the Court could give them.

The Grand Jury in the course of their duty have found Bills against the following Prisoners.

Thomas Barnes, charged with the wilful murder of Thomas Lively on board the Ship Woodro RD.

Veerasawmy, and Baulamah.—Mowitcher.—Varpen.—Soobbee.—Narasoo.—Arroonachellom, and Kempah.—Robert Thomas Moore, and Cypriano Rodrigues.—Joseph Yanningham.—Lutchoomunnen.—Sabbaputty.—Sooben, Nynan, Kurree, Kishnen, and Allamaloo.

Against Thomas Boll, no Bill was found by the Grand Jury, and the Prisoner was discharged.

The Trial of Thomas Barnes occupied the Court on Monday, when as mentioned in our last publication, he was fully acquitted—and was immediately discharged.

On Tuesday Veerasawmy and Baulamah, charged with a Burglary, were first put upon their trial, and were found guilty of a Larceny only. Sabbaputty was then put to the Bar charged with Burglary, he was also found guilty. Yesterday the Court was occupied with the Trials of Varpen, charged with feloniously stealing; of Lutchoomunnen, charged with the same offence; and of Soobbee, charged with having clandestinely taken away a female child, who were all found guilty.—Upon the prisoner Soobbee being put to the Bar, charged with feloniously stealing, she persisted in pleading Guilty.

The Court stands adjourned until to-morrow forenoon at 11 o'clock.

The GRAND JURY having completed all the business brought before them, received the Thanks of the COURT from the CHIEF JUSTICE, and were discharged yesterday afternoon.—Madras Government Gazette.

Calcutta Improvements.—Among the very many, and very great, improvements which have been rapidly, tho' silently, in progress in this far famed City, there is not one which reflects more credit on its projectors, than the Strand which is forming on the Banks of the river. There is now an open clear space of about 50 feet from the Bank to the Walls of the adjacent houses. This extends, we imagine, perfectly uninterrupted for a mile and a half. At certain distances large punkah drains communicate with the River. The sameness of appearance is relieved, not only by the occasional intervention of the Ghauts; but also from the spaces between them, being, in some places, plotted with grass, and in others having a strong wall erected. The former has a most pleasing aspect from the river—while the latter, we imagine, is the more secure method of preventing the encroachments of this rapid stream. We believe these walls are built in a perpendicular line, or at all events with a very small inclination to wards the Bank. We would suggest, on any such future occasion, the wall to be built concave, as is the case with the beautiful new Stone Wharf at the Custom House in London; and which is considered the best means of overcoming the pressure of the earth against it.

The completion of this useful and ornamented work is in rapid progress; we need hardly say that previous to the commencement of it, nothing could possibly be more offensive than the banks of the River; this nuisance is now removed, and if the immediate inhabitants are more indebted to the instigators of this improvement, still the whole body of Calcutta owe them gratitude for their exertions.

The Erection of Wharfs on this strand, we hope yet to see, and refer our readers to a letter in the paper of this day on the subject.—A few Wharfs of the kind there recommended would indeed render the strand complete; and when we take into consideration, what has been done, we have no doubt, but that for the future, every thing which is proved likely to produce public benefit will at least meet attention.

Weather.—The frequent Northwester of the last four or five days have rendered the weather particularly delightful. We have always understood that this month was considered one of the hottest, and most unpleasant in the year.—The squall of Monday night has particularly effected a pleasing change.—The wind yesterday morning was moderately fresh from the Northward, and most delightfully cool, and refreshing. We hope our Mofussil friends have also received the benefit of a few Northwester, as the late accounts were anticipating severe losses in the Indigo Plantations from the want of Rain.

Further particulars of the state of the Bodies of the Individuals killed by Lightning on Sunday Evening.—On a view of the bodies, that of the woman presented the following appearances. The clothes were burnt from head to foot, with the exception of here and there an entire patch which had not even the appearance of being singed. The body was much swollen about the thorax and abdomen, and was becoming rapidly putrid. The eyes and tongue showed the like tendency; and upon the whole the body appeared more advanced towards that state than in common instances. The lightning seems to have struck the head, on the left side, from the crown downwards. The concussion must have been great, as there had been considerable discharge of blood from the ear;—the hair was singed, and in some parts peeled off;—the skin on the body generally was much burnt, and some parts so much so, as to leave the flesh bare. The whole body was straight, and stiff in a high degree, as if a person had been, when in the erect posture, struck instantaneously stiff, as



well as dead, and had in this state, fallen like a felled tree, or post. On attempting to bend the limbs, they were so stiff as to resist a much greater force than would have bent those of a subject dying of the more common diseases. The young man who was killed, at the same time suffered much less externally;—as the lightning seemed only to have injured his left neck, shoulder, breast, and arm. A black mark or discoloration of the skin was all that could be perceived. The corpse, however, like that of his fellow sufferer, was rapidly going "the way of all flesh" and presented an awful and melancholy spectacle of the shortness, and uncertainty of human life. How very applicable therefore and necessary to our situation in this climate, is the repetition of that part of the Litany, "from lightning and tempest, &c." The limbs in this case were as rigid and inflexible as in the other subject, altho' less swelled. The latter indeed, looked as if the body had been about half roasted in a fire; and the skin ready to burst.

On going to the house where the accident occurred, a third person was shown, who had been very slightly and partially struck on the left arm and breast. No further injury was done however, than the skin being a little scorched or torn, and the patient's feeling was, as if all his flesh had been dried up. Three circumstances are remarkable on the present occasion, and worthy the notice of medical men, and philosophers.

1st. Instead of the limbs and body being flexible and supple, as is said to be invariably the case after death, by lightning, the reverse was their condition.

2d. Instead of bodies keeping for days, without any tendency to putrefaction, these were RAPIDLY APPROACHING to it;—In fact it was far advanced.

3d. From the father's account, as well as that of others, it would appear, that several persons, who were lying in the same place, and nearly in a line, and in contact with the man who was killed, were not hurt; but that the lightning attacked them alternately; or as has been proved, when a portion of the fluid strikes a man, a second portion of the same will not strike the man who stands immediately close to him; because there is always a repulsion between bodies electrified the same way.

Thus a person may be interposed between two bodies of electricity or lightning—or two bodies thus electrified, and escape unhurt.—John Bull.

### MEDICAL.

To the Editor of the Oriental Magazine.

SIR,

The valuable Correspondent, who has enriched the pages of your Magazine, with an account of the Medical and Surgical Sciences of the Hindus, alludes to the disease termed "Nakra," as a species of nasal Polypus; and describes an instrument, or *Salaka*, used for eradicating it. From this instrument, however, being named a rod, or sound, it is evident, that it was merely a probe, and could not possibly act in the manner of our Polypus-forceps, by forcibly extracting the tumor. Indeed, the disease, *Nakra*, is altogether different from Polypus; and to remove it, no extraction whatever is either required, or practised at the present day. It is an acute febrile complaint, similar in its mode of attack, to common Catarrh. The membrane, lining the nostrils, is certainly affected; but in what respect it differs from the swelling, which generally accompanies Catarrh, I cannot say. Although I have myself seen many cases of the disease, I do not profess to have bestowed that attention on it, which the subject perhaps deserves. The natives occasionally suffer severely from the fever attending it, and appear to consider the affection, as entirely different from a common cold, or *Sirdee*. They cure it by introducing into the nostril a few stems of dried grass, and irritating the schneiderian membrane so as to produce slight hæmorrhage, and unload the distended blood vessels. This affords immediate relief, and hence the disorder would seem to be quite local: but with its real nature I am not sufficiently acquainted, to hazard an opinion on this point. I hope some of your Mofussil friends will favor us with their experience in the treatment of this disorder, which is the more interesting, from its being peculiar to the natives of this country. Might it not form a most legitimate subject of enquiry, for the members of the new Medical and Physical Society? one of their objects, as I am informed, being the investigation of diseases, peculiar to natives, and the mode of treatment, followed by natives practitioners, together with the received opinions, as to their nature and cause. By the bye, I have not yet seen any account of this institution in your pages—at least under the proper head of your Medical Miscellany.

Your sincere well-wisher,

Calcutta, April 4, 1823.

MEDICUS.

### COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

| BUY.]      | CALCUTTA.   | [SELL. |
|------------|---|--------|
| 1 11] a 2] | On London 6 Months sight, per Sicca Rupees, ..          | 2 a 2] |
|            | Bombay 30 Days sight, per 100 Bombay Rupees, ..         | 92     |
|            | Madras ditto, 94 a 98 Sa. Rs. per 100 Madras Rupees, .. |        |
|            | Bank Shares—Premium 60 to 62 per cent.—nominal.         |        |

### Suggested Improvements.

To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

SIR,

The public has been dunned with accounts of nuisances until they must have become really tired of the subject, but I think that before an end be put to it, there are still a few which ought to be brought forward with a view to correction. One of these has reference to the heaps of earth, stones and sand, which are invariably piled up in front of those houses which are undergoing repairs, and of those new buildings which are not yet completed. Some of these project nearly into the middle of the street, where they are not very easily to be distinguished, and of a night, as no light is placed to point them out, they are the continual sources of accidents to persons driving buggies or carriages. Indeed I have even known bearers stumble over them, and the palanquins thrown with their inmates on the ground. There was a heap of this kind in New Court House Street, about two months ago, but which is now removed, on which I saw a gentleman thrown from his horse, but he luckily escaped without any further injury. This was about 5 o'clock in the morning, when, as is well known, the mornings at that time were quite dark.

Another thing that I would strongly recommend is that every carriage driving after sun-set should be obliged to carry a lamp or a light of some kind, as a warning, to other vehicles of where they are going. The other night, just before the heavy rain, two gentlemen passing along the street at the corner of which the Post Office is situated, in a buggy without lights, were met by a carriage also without them, with so much force, as completely to knock down the horse in the buggy. This was done without any neglect either on the one part or the other, and although no evil consequences arose from the circumstance, there can be no doubt that they might have occurred, had not the coachman very adroitly pulled up his horses, at the moment the other horse fell.

Another nuisance which is even more intolerable than either of the former, is to be found in the filthy tanks, scattered about in the most crowded parts of the town, which are commonly those inhabited by the natives. The greater part of these are at this season of the year half dry, and the stench arising from the mud of them is most abominable. The habits of the natives are far from being clean, and these, added to the circumstance before alluded to, cannot fail of being highly prejudicial to the health of the city. If these receptacles of filth were stopped up, and good pucks tanks dug at stated distances from each other, and at such distances from the native huts as to prevent them from being made the depositories of the refuse of their meals, &c. the advantages would soon be very evident.

I cannot conclude this without remarking how highly the community at large are indebted to those who have the management of the improvements of Calcutta for the exertion made by that body for their comfort. In the short space of two years, two of the dirtiest places in Calcutta have, under their able management, become its greatest ornaments.

One of this is Wellington Square, on the site of which there stood at the time to which I refer, a most disgusting assemblage of native huts, inhabited for the most part by lascars.—The other is in the neighbourhood of the burying ground, between Park Street and the Circular Road, and which from having been a short time since as bad as the other place which I have just mentioned, promises very shortly to rival any part of Calcutta in beauty and respectability.—The new wharf too, along the river adds not a little to the beauty and elegance of Calcutta, and when finished, must command the admiration of every one, as indeed it does already. I would venture to suggest as a further improvement that trees should be planted along it, which would make it a delightful promenade, and be a shelter from the rays of the sun for those whose inclinations or duties lead them to this part of the town.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

May 1, 1823.

AN OBSERVER.

### CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, MAY 7, 1823.

|   | BUY....  | SELL.          |
|---|----------|----------------|
| Remittable Loans, .....   | Rs. 32 8 | 31 8           |
| Unremittable ditto, .....   | 8 8      | 8 0            |
| Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April 1822..... | 25 0     | 24 6           |
| Bank Shares, .....  | 7000 0   | 6800 0         |
| Spanish Dollars, per 100, .....   | 206 8    | 205 5          |
| Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 5 per cent.                      |          |                |
| Government Bills, Discounted, .....   |          | at 3 per cent. |
| Loans on Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, at 3 per cent.                    |          |                |

### CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

|   |               |             |
|---|---------------|-------------|
| Remittable, .....                                 | Premium ..... | 36 6 a 30 s |
| Non-Remittable, Certificates, 5 p. ct., ditto, .. |               | 8 0 a 8 s   |

## To a Friend on his quitting India.

(From the India Gazette.)

Yes—thou must leave us for thy native shore,  
Thy friends and kindred to behold again,  
To brave the wind's long howl, the water's roar,  
But—Oh remember me while on the main.  
And ere thou breathest here thy last adieu,  
Ere thy last farewell murmurs in mine ear,  
Friendship shall pay thee, what to thee is due,  
This song her tribute, then, O! with thee bear.

Wilt thou, when far from Ganges fertile stream,  
Not heave a sigh for those thou hast left there—  
Wilt thou, when wrapt in fancy's golden dream,  
Think on thy friends, and breathe for them a pray'r?  
O! the sweet hours now come athwart my mind,  
(Time, heedless rapid Time, thou flyest fast)  
When care fled by us with the wings of wind—  
But ah! those hours from us for aye have past!

Fell many a comic tale did we unfold,  
The jocund laugh with us did oft abound,  
Now, how many a tale shall lie untold—  
How many a laugh neglected in our round!  
Oft have we sported on your happy green—  
Our pleasant hours from us have glided fast—  
Memory but tells me that such things have been  
And sad reflection, adds—that they are past!

Then Oh farewell—in thee a friend I've found,  
Whose tongue could ne'er his noble heart belie;  
But ere thou go'st—remember we are bound  
By Friendship's sweet indissoluble tie!

April 29, 1823.

AMICUS.

## Regulation of Hackeries.

To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

Sir, A Regulation was some time ago made by the Police Magistrates, ordering that every Hackery plying for fare in Calcutta, should have its number affixed to one or both of its doors. This, I imagine was done in order that, in the event of bad conduct on the part of the proprietors, their licences may be taken from them, and they thus be prevented from again exercising the employment. A few days ago, a friend brought to my notice that he had in one morning seen no less than five or six of these vehicles employed in various parts of the town, without displaying any numbers at all. This led me to notice those which I met in the street, and out of four or five and twenty, I think I saw six or seven without numbers. If the magisterial Regulation were intended to produce any good purpose, it ought to be rigidly enforced and without this, nothing can be expected to be done effectually.—The daily and almost hourly, accidents which occur from the ignorance and carelessness of the drivers of these awkward vehicles demand that the strictest surveillance should be kept over them, and no way can be so effectual to produce this, as that of forcing them to carry their numbers in a very conspicuous place.—They can then be easily brought to justice in the event of an accident arising, from acknowledge of their number, an end which could not be obtained by any other possible means.

I am, Sir, your's obediently,

Friday.

W.

## Administrations to Estates.

Mr. George Phillott, late a Surgeon in the Honorable Company's Bengal Military Service, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Ensign John Cates, late of the 2d Battalion 10th Regiment of Native Infantry, deceased—James Weir Hogg, Esq.

Mr. Thomas Botelho, late of Calcutta, an Assistant in the Office of Messrs. Alexander and Co. deceased—Mr. Lewis Dacosta and Mr. Paul D'Mello.

Mrs. Maria Bertram, late of Purneah, deceased—Captain William Bertram, of the Honorable Company's Bengal Military Establishment.

## Death.

On the 4th instant, on board the EXMOUTH, at Diamond Harbour, Lieutenant Colonel WILLIAM ELLIOTT, of the 4th Regiment of Light Cavalry, after a long and severe illness; which the worthy man and excellent Officer, bore with his characteristic serenity and fortitude. His remains were interred on the 5th, in the Burial Ground at Diamond Harbour.

## Notice to Correspondents.

We have received a Letter from the Reverend Mr. Murphy, in answer to the Letter of B—, published in the JOURNAL of Tuesday; but have recommended that Gentleman not to subject himself to the disadvantage of writing against an anonymous opponent. B—'s regard for the general benefit of the Catholic Community, may perhaps induce him to favour the Public with his name; in which case both parties will be placed on a more equal footing.

## Matrimonial Notice Corrected.

At the request of Mr. H. C. Cavendish, we give publicity to the following communication, contradicting the notice of a Marriage which appeared first in the JOHN BULL of the 4th instant, and which was copied into the JOURNAL of the 6th:—

An account of a Marriage, which was said to have taken place, at the Roman Catholic Church between Mr. H. C. Cavendish and Miss D'Santo, having been sent to the Printer of the JOHN BULL, without a signature, and inadvertently admitted on Saturday last; we are desired to state, that the notification contains a gross and most disgraceful falsehood.—Mr. H. C. Cavendish having been married twelve years ago, to a Daughter of the Reverend Mr. Armour (by the Honorable and Reverend Dr. Twissleton then one of His Majesty's Colonial Chaplains in Ceylon,) and which Lady is now living with him at Calcutta: a certificate of which marriage, has been produced to us. We have also seen a certificate, however, of the marriage of a Mr. Guy Cavendish to Miss Isabel de Santo, signed by the Portuguese Clergyman. The purpose for which the above false communication was made, is considered to have been most base, malignant, and deceitful; and a reward of forty Rupees is hereby offered by Mr. H. C. Cavendish to any one who shall satisfactorily prove who is the author thereof, that he may meet the disgraceful exposure his conduct so justly merits.

## Shipping Arrivals.

## CALCUTTA.

| Date  | Names of Vessels | Flags  | Commanders      | From Whence | Left    |
|-------|------------------|--------|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| May 7 | Nautaise         | French | A. J. S. Watier | Nantz       | Oct. 14 |

## MADRAS.

| Date     | Names of Vessels   | Flags   | Commanders     | From Whence   | Left    |
|----------|--------------------|---------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| April 19 | Bombay Merchant    | British | J. Hill        | Bombay        | Mar. 28 |
| 19       | Carron             | British | T. S. McCarthy | Bombay        | Mar. 14 |
| 20       | Eliza              | British | R. Gibson      | Mauritius     | Feb. 20 |
| 22       | H. M. S. Alligator | British | T. Alexander   | from a Cruise | —       |

## BOMBAY.

| Date     | Names of Vessels | Flags   | Commanders    | From Whence | Left    |
|----------|------------------|---------|---------------|-------------|---------|
| April 14 | Aurora           | British | P. Earl       | Beugal      | Feb. 14 |
| 14       | Bombay Merchant  | British | Nacoda Jairam | Acheen      | Jan. 24 |

## Shipping Departures.

## CALCUTTA.

| Date  | Names of Vessels | Flags   | Commanders  | Destination   |
|-------|------------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| May 6 | Good Hope        | British | T. Binney   | South America |
| 6     | Arasta           | Amercn. | T. Clontman | Boston        |
| 6     | Catherine        | British | G. Wallace  | Penang        |

## BOMBAY.

| Date     | Names of Vessels | Flags   | Commanders  | Destination |
|----------|------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| April 13 | Sarah            | British | R. Codlenox | Port Nova   |

## Stations of Vessels in the River.

## CALCUTTA, MAY 6, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—EXMOUTH, and CLYDESDALE, outward-bound, remain.

New Anchorage.—H. C. S. ROYAL GEORGE.

Saugor.—THETIS, PORTSEA, below Saugor, outward-bound, remain.

The GEORGE (bark) arrived off Burrha Bazar Ghaut on Monday.

Passenger per Aurora, from Bengal to Bombay.—The Honorable R. F. Moore, of the Beugal Civil Service.